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IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Dec. 8.

THE new Government of Southern Rhodesia, concerning the inauguration of which a correspondent has written in our columns, may be regarded as the final chapter of a remarkable story—a story associated with the name of one of Britain's greatest Empire builders, Cecil Rhodes. Roughly, the history of the country, so far as it deals with Britain's influence, dates back to 1887, the Jubilee year of Queen Victoria. At that time the struggle had started between the Western nations for the still unexploited territories in South Africa. Southern Rhodesia which consists of those regions south of the Zambezi River known as Matabeleland and Mashonaland, was the centre of this struggle. The Boers, foiled in Matabeleland, were attempting to establish themselves in Mashonaland and the Germans and Portuguese were both contending rivals for as much of this country as they could annex. The territory claimed by the Portuguese in a map laid before the Portuguese Cortes in 1887 was shown to stretch across the country from sea to sea and included almost the whole of what is now Rhodesia, as well as the British territories on Lake Nyanza. Portugal actually obtained the assent of Germany and France to a trans-continental domain, though Germany hoped to establish her authority over Matabeleland, having already secured a footing in south-west Africa.

Portugal, however, reckoned without the attitude and influence of Britain and the courage, foresight and tenacity of Cecil Rhodes who was eventually to give his name to the country. Consequently, when she approached Great Britain for re-

cognition of her rights in this region she received a blunt refusal. It was pointed out that there was not a sign of Portuguese authority or jurisdiction in the districts claimed by her and that it was therefore impossible to acknowledge her rights in a country which she had not effectively occupied. Portugal's action, however, brought matters to a head for it at once became evident to Cecil Rhodes and others who shared his aims that the time had come to act quickly. At the end of 1887 efforts were made to secure a treaty with Lobengula securing British rights but these were not successful until Rhodes offered to undertake the pecuniary responsibility. Eventually, however, a treaty was signed under which Lobengula agreed not to enter into correspondence or treaty with any State or Power without the previous knowledge and sanction of the British high commissioner for South Africa. The next step was the formation of a syndicate by Rhodes and others which obtained from Lobengula for the payment of £100 a month, together with 1,000 Martini-Henry rifles and 100,000 rounds of ammunition, control over all the metals and minerals in his kingdom, with power to exclude from his dominions "all persons seeking land, metals, minerals or mining rights therein" in which action, if need be, he promised to render them assistance. Finally, through the instrumentality of Rhodes a charter was obtained for the company on October 29, 1889. This syndicate was the British South Africa Company who undertook to encourage emigration and colonization, to extend northwards the railway and telegraph systems in the direction of the Zambezi River and develop and work minerals and other concessions under the management of one powerful organization, "thereby obviating conflicts and complications between the various interests that had been acquired within these regions, and securing to the native chiefs and their subjects

the rights reserved to them under their several concessions."

Thus began the history of the British South Africa administration in Southern Rhodesia. This administration was prescribed by Orders in Council, the last dated in 1916. Under the Company's administration there was an Executive Council, consisting of not less than three members appointed for three years by the Company with the approval of the Secretary of State. There was also a Legislative Council consisting of the Administrator as President, six nominees of the Company and twelve members elected by the registered voters. The duration of the Legislative Council was three years unless dissolved sooner. Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council and approved by the High Commissioner took effect immediately but could be vetoed by the Secretary of State within a year. A Resident Commissioner was appointed by the Secretary of State to watch proceedings who had seats in both the Executive and Legislative Councils but no vote. There is no doubt that the decision to replace the administration of the British South Africa Company by Colonial Government will be welcomed on all sides. Government by a chartered syndicate was a curious anomaly, which at best could only be justified under exceptional pioneering conditions and was bound to be superseded sooner or later when the European settlers increased to anything approaching influential numbers. At a time like the present when the future of the whole world may be said to depend in some degree on the stability of the British Empire, any measure—however small it may appear in itself—which may have the effect of strengthening the bonds of Empire must be welcomed as part of a progressive movement. Fortunately, those who determined the administrative machinery were far sighted men so that it has been possible to make the changes with a minimum of friction. Naturally, the British South

Africa Company will still continue to exert considerable influence, especially in regard to the commercial development of the country where its activities will be appreciated; on the other hand the population will feel that it has adopted an administrative system more in accordance with modern ideas.

EARTHQUAKE

ATROCITIES

Dec. 10.

IMMEDIATELY after the great earthquake in Japan, as soon as the devastation and frightful loss of life became known, the expression of sympathy from the rest of the world was very deep, and there was general admiration of the courage, patience, and resignation of the people who had been almost overwhelmed by misfortune. But there was also a dark side, as we are now learning. The national antagonism between the Japanese and Koreans is of long standing. Inflamed by reports that the Koreans, taking advantage of the general disorder caused by the earthquake, were guilty of murder, rapine and incendiarism. Japanese hatred and fear blazed forth and they massacred hundreds of Koreans indiscriminately without regard for sex or age. Our Tokio correspondent states that the Japanese authorities admit that "more than 500" Koreans were killed, also not a few Chinese who were mistaken for Koreans. What are we to think of it all? Are we to revise our first estimate of the Japanese national character as manifested in the presence of a great calamity? It may be argued that just as persons under the influence of wine reveal the truth, much more does great terror draw aside the veil of conventionalism and acquired qualities and reveal the true character beneath. But it is hardly fair to estimate the character of a whole nation by the atrocious acts of comparatively few, especially if these acts, when analyzed and all the circumstances taken into account, reveal not so much the badness as the weakness of human nature, which after all is much the same everywhere.

Fourteen or fifteen years ago there was a great earthquake in Messina, Italy, and one who was present wrote that at the time of the disaster many of the

survivors were stupefied almost to mental paralysis, and the rest were in a deplorable state of fear and nervous apprehension. After the Japanese earthquake many no doubt were in the same state. Now in any calamity or danger, when fear seizes hold of a large number of persons, the collective emotion may very easily pass into a state of uncontrollable or panic fear in which men seem to lose all human attributes and sink to the level of purely animal behaviour. This has happened in every nation in every part of the world. We can all recall calamities endangering human life, such as fires in theatres, the burning or sinking of ships at sea and so on, in which men in their wild fear have struggled to save their own lives utterly regardless of the lives of others. In former days whole peoples were sometimes driven by the fear of death into cruelties almost beyond description. In the fourteenth century, when a terrible epidemic of plague was sweeping over Europe, the common people, ignorant of the true nature of the disease, accused the Jews of poisoning the wells and thousands were put to death. It is deplorable, but quite in accordance with what we know of the weakness of human nature, that some of the Japanese were made wild by fear during the recent earthquake. Our Tokio correspondent tells us that the men accused of the atrocities are ignorant farmers and workmen, ordinarily pleasant and law-abiding people; they massacred the Koreans in the sincere belief that they were only protecting their own families and were killing to prevent being killed. An earthquake is a peculiarly appalling catastrophe; it is so strange and unexpected as to seem almost supernatural, and all feel their utter helplessness against it. In such frightful circumstances ordinary moral standards are hardly applicable, for fear leaves its disabling mark on the strongest and the weaker are driven wholly or partly out of their minds. As an actual fact, many Japanese have become insane owing to their terrible experiences.

The question arises, if human nature without distinction of nationality is always liable to savage exhibitions of primitive fears and instincts, are we really making permanent progress in civilization? In reply it may be said that our psychological in-

heritance changes very slowly, and regarded as individuals our progress is certainly extremely slow. But collectively, in organized societies, the development of the "group-spirit" by tradition and training is capable of lifting the mass of men to a high level of public-spirited conduct and even to heights of heroic self-sacrifice. Tales of heroism can be culled from the annals of every nation, but as an instance of fine courage in the presence of extreme and hopeless disaster, reference may be made to the loss many years ago of the British troopship *Birkenhead* in a tropical sea. After all the women and children had been sent away in safety in the few boats available, the regiment of soldiers assembled on deck and stood calmly and steadily shoulder to shoulder as if on parade, while the ship surrounded by sharks slowly foundered. Incidents of this kind, and they are not infrequent, show human nature at its best, the virtues of courage, discipline, and self-sacrifice being developed by the traditional "group-spirit" and training. In our judgment the worst feature of the massacre of Koreans in Japan was not the panic fear of the farmers and labourers, but the conduct of the Japanese military police—if the charge be true—in inciting their countrymen to slaughter the Koreans, and by some taking part in it. The Bushido code does not sanction the slaughter of defenceless strangers, and while fright may be an excuse it does not wholly exonerate. We feel confident that the Japanese Government will do justice to all, and will make whatever amends are possible for what has happened to unfortunate Koreans and Chinese.

BRITISH POLITICS

Dec. 11.

At the time of writing all the news about the political situation in Great Britain leaves us speculating on the future, and if we look to the traditional course of events we shall continue in a state of uncertainty for some days to come. In the past, it must be remembered, occasions have occurred when Party leaders, having a bare majority or none at all, have made conscientious efforts to form Cabinets and have had to give up the task, and not only days but

weeks have been spent with politics in a state of flux. Political biography is full of such episodes, and even if before this can appear in print, any Party leader is announced as ready to form a Government we may not take it as certain that he will succeed. At this juncture we need not recapitulate what the Home papers have to say about Mr. Baldwin's electoral venture, bringing as it has with it a decreased Conservative strength, a complete disillusionment as to the Protectionist sentiment of the country and the other features, but before turning to other matters there may be some satisfaction in considering Mr. Baldwin himself. Having attended an Imperial Conference which strongly advocated inter-Empire preference, Mr. Baldwin doubtless felt himself bound to support such a programme, and not only was it a point of political honesty to place the question before the country, but in the divided state of the Conservative Party on fiscal reform there was no other course. Imperial preference or any greater or less measure of Protection has lost, and unhappily Mr. Baldwin has sacrificed prestige at the same time.

Leaving the present political sorting out to itself, may we not hope for certain very useful results from the present election? Too often are politicians notorious self-seekers, and the result of this contest must have caused heart-burning to many of that special fraternity. When well-paid lawyers earning a few thousands a year attach themselves to the Labour Party, as has been the case in recent years, the man in the street may be excused if he puts a question mark against them. The individual who does some political thinking in his spare time finds very little in common with them and the men who work with their coats off, and there is apt to be a feeling that these individuals are in the Labour Party not because of conviction but solely because it is the best chance they have to forward their own interests. They would be the men who, if in power, the Labour Party would elevate to the Bench and one of them would be Lord Chancellor. There is the bait, and after an election such as the present we can envisage their disappointment, for it seems unlikely that for some years to

come Labour will be in a position to command the strength to assume the reins of Government. The present suggestion that Mr. Ramsay Macdonald should succeed Mr. Baldwin is doubtless a political snare such as has been common in the past. And if these office-seekers, whose sympathies with the cause of Labour are at the most academic, can see no chance of the fulfilment of their ambitions until a very long time ahead, it is quite on the cards that they may adopt the chameleon as their model. In the political drama which is now being staged, they might not improbably find that circumstances had given a Liberal or Conservative hue to their colouring, and the coming session of Parliament might see a gradual alteration in the balance of votes. Such events would tend to purify the Labour Party, but it would need a great many more conversions to change the whole situation at all radically.

Whether intentionally or not, Mr. Baldwin may conceivably have rendered a very great service to British politics by this election. Parliament stands at present in very much the same position as one of the typical legislative assemblies of the Continent, with a Centre, Right and Left, and we see the Liberals as the Centre, the Conservatives as the Right and Labour as the Left. This, however, is not a position in accordance with the clearer-cut traditions of British political life, and it is very doubtful whether, with its inevitable compromises and makeshifts, it can be assimilated. Rather should we anticipate a movement in the Centre Party to the Right or Left, as one of the American papers suggests. One school of thought believes, in spite of denials, that Mr. Asquith will take a peerage and thus leave the way open for some such move on the part of his ambitious lieutenant, Mr. Lloyd George, with whom he has little in common when all is said and done. Mr. Lloyd George's character is so many-sided that the same school considers it as easy for him to become Conservative as Labourite, and should this be the case he and his inevitable following would then readily solve the problem now facing political parties at Home. Meanwhile we may expect many reports of Cabinet building and Party

compromise, but the position created is more than one of immediate interest. It suggests that we may be on the eve of very important political developments which the disappearance of Protection has left free to work out.

THE PARLIAMENT IN SHANGHAI

Dec 12.

SINCE the middle of July a section of the Chinese Parliament has been leading an undistinguished career in Shanghai. Its members came here because they objected to Tsao Kun's way of seeking to be elected President, and here they talked largely about struggles for freedom and fighting for justice. Never an angry bullet, however, have they heard, nor even the sound of a distant bursting shell, which indicates better than anything else that in selecting Shanghai as the venue of their proposed legislative assembly they had first and last in their minds a place, if not of safety, at least of academic repose. Their attitude, however, was by no means wholly academic, for they looked to the rulers of Chékiang and Mukden to supply them with funds during their sojourn, and in return they professed themselves as prepared to arouse public opinion to fever heat against the favoured Presidential candidate. In the course of their stay they induced the ex-President, General Li Yuan-hung, to join them, but after a very brief survey of the situation here, the latter decided that it was better to betake himself to Japan. That was practically a vote of no-confidence in them, and it has had its results, for many have resolved that the atmosphere of Peking is after all more suited to their state of health and so they have found it convenient to depart. Between seventy and a hundred—the number varies from day to day—are still here, and it is quite reasonable to inquire what they hope to effect by their presence.

Peking did not express a very high opinion of the M. P.'s when they left there as a result of a vague threat by the Tientsin clique. The attitude of the Village Hampden they adopted on reaching Shanghai equally failed to capture the imagina-

tion of various local associations who combine politics with their activities. And since then the Parliamentary element has steadily lowered itself in the respect of the community. The first arrivals proclaimed themselves the vanguard of the quorum which was to defeat Tsao Kun's "wicked ambitions," and with subsidies coming in from Hangchow and Mukden they hoped to attract sufficient of their fellows to achieve this object. This did not prove to be the case, for Peking offered rather better wages, and even if those might be regarded as the wages of sin they kept a numerous congregation there. More, in fact, for they attracted M.P.'s from Shanghai, the Peking pay day occurring rather later in the month than Shanghai's. Combined with the fact that there was no wild exultation over the arrival of the Parliament in Shanghai, some of the local organizations showing a distinct antagonism, there was a recollection of the record of uselessness which Parliament had behind it, and it has not improved this record since. Besides, Shanghai is essentially a place of business, and the principal desire of the Chinese mercantile classes is that it should remain so. Here was a political gathering gratuitously intruding itself after refusing invitations to other though possibly less salubrious spots, and when all was said and done no good to the country resulted. The numbers of the M.P.'s in Shanghai have since steadily dwindled, but still a rump of seventy or a hundred remain. Why so?

The probability is that, feeling there is no safe home for them in Peking, they are working for a situation in Dr. Sun Yat-sen's "constitutional" government, and there is a certain amount of evidence in support of this view. If so, it may be pointed out that they could be of no greater assistance to Dr. Sun than at the present moment, when he is in the midst of severe trials, military and otherwise, but it is significant that they content themselves with negotiations. The remainder of the Shanghai Parliament has shown its measure of venality by returning to Peking to accept the money of Tsao Kun when other sources were beginning to fail, and now the others prove themselves no better by waiting to see how Dr. Sun will fare before declaring themselves.

Why in circumstances such as these anybody should care to spend money on them it is not permitted to the foreign observer to see. The suggestion that they might prove useful pawns in a controversy between neighbouring provinces is not enough, for there are institutions and societies here which have ample power to voice all the opinions of the community without the help of the Parliamentarians. It is surely time that the 1923 Parliament of Shanghai should be recognized as a failure, and that the remaining members resolve to disband themselves as a separate entity.

THE CUSTOMS ISSUE IN CANTON

Dec. 13.

THE statement telegraphed by Mr. Eugene Chen yesterday shows that Dr. Sun Yat-sen's intentions regarding the Customs have not altered since he explained them to the editor of this paper on December 4, except in respect of the time of putting them into execution. By a letter of December 5 he, or rather Dr. Wu Chao-chu, informed the Consular Body in Canton that he would wait two weeks before taking any action. The same letter added that Dr. Sun's Government had applied to the Diplomatic Body on September 5 for renewal of payments of Kuangtung's share in the Customs surplus and it was hinted broadly that Dr. Sun considered he had waited quite long enough. His proposed plan of action is simple. He will instruct the Commissioner of Customs, whom he, Dr. Sun, considers to be under his orders as a servant of the Chinese Government and therefore, inferentially, of the ruler of Kuangtung, to hand over to him the Customs revenue; if the Commissioner refuses, Dr. Sun will replace him by another. If the Powers use force to protect the Customs, Dr. Sun cannot hope to withstand them and will then have to try other expedients, adumbrated but as yet undefined. Thus the Powers are confronted with the alternative of coming into direct conflict with Dr. Sun, to an extent which they have never before been brought with any of the Chinese political belligerents; or of allowing him to establish a precedent which would instantly be followed by every province in

China. And that would be the end of the Customs. It may be emphasized that all the Powers are at one in respect of the dispute and how it is to be handled.

From Dr. Sun's standpoint, there appears something to be said for his contentions. It is a fact that Kuangtung's portion of the surplus was paid to him for about eighteen months in 1919 and 1920. And to a Southerner it may well appear that Peking is being enabled to take money out of his province to make war upon that province. In point of fact, this much advertised injustice is more apparent than real. After the service of the foreign and domestic loans there is very little if any surplus from the Customs; it is certainly not on this source that Peking relies for any armed adventures it may pursue. Nor, if the surplus were removed from the service of the domestic loans, would those adventures be affected. It is absurd to say that Peking has money to make war with because the Customs relieve it of the necessity of paying the bondholders. If the surplus were not paid to the bondholders, the latter would simply have to go without, like all Peking's creditors and employees. Thus the Diplomatic Body's determination to prevent Dr. Sun from meddling with the Customs is at least as much undertaken in the interests of the Chinese people as of foreign bondholders. The fact that the Diplomatic Body are recognizing the Government in Peking has nothing to do with their stand in respect of the Customs. As regards Treaty rights, it hardly becomes provincial leaders of China to say too much about them. But if the Customs machinery, almost the last example of centralized organization in China, were broken up, as it inevitably would be if Dr. Sun's project succeeded, not only would a large number of Chinese holders of internal loans suffer heavy loss, with incalculable reactions far beyond their circle, but the interests of the Chinese people would be irreparably damaged. Once the Customs service ceased to function, it would be a very long time before it was reinstituted. And if Dr. Sun ever hopes to establish a unified Government, that is a consideration he must not overlook. One of the greatest obstacles to unification, to-

day is to induce the provinces to give up the perquisites they have laid hold of under the Republic, and once they controlled their own customs, they would be very loath indeed to surrender them again.

It must, therefore, be hoped in the interests of the Chinese people, that the Diplomatic Body will continue to keep a stiff upper lip in respect of the Canton Customs. Nor do we doubt for a moment that they will do so. But it cannot be overlooked that this particular controversy is but a stage in what we have now to regard as the general issue between China's politicians and the Powers, an issue that is every day forced upon public notice in some new shape. To save the Customs for the Chinese people does not solve the question of China. Nobody can visit South China without being impressed by its immense remoteness from Peking. We smile at Dr. Sun's expeditions to conquer the North; but it seems equally impossible for North to vanquish South. And these are not the only contestants to be overcome or brought into harmony. There appears no finality anywhere to these wasting wars, no avenue of reconciliation and peace. Every day brings forth some new instance of violation of treaty rights and every violation if allowed to pass is at once copied by others. In the Lincheng Note the Powers dwelt strongly on the Chinese Government's attempt to rule out certain areas as unsafe for foreign travel, and emphasized that they would not tolerate this flagrant evasion of official responsibilities. Yet within a few months the spirit of this Note has been so far departed from, that the possibility of the missionaries being recalled from Szechuan is being considered and, if we are rightly informed, foreign boats are being taken off the Chientang river. The Powers cannot remain content to go on for ever stopping a leak here and propping up a breakdown there or, as is too often the case, pretending to do so. They will have to frame a new policy towards China, in accord with facts not fairy tales, and carry it through concertedly.

ACCORDING to the Chinese press President Tsao Kun used \$400,000 from the funds of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway last month.

A NEW POLICY NEEDED IN CHINA

Dec. 14

ONE point which deserves to be emphasized in connexion with the Customs controversy at Canton is that all the Powers are united in respect of it. The fact that a British subject presents the foreign communications to Dr. Sun's Government is of no more importance than that in Peking a Portuguese subject does the like to the Northern Government. It is merely a matter of seniority who acts for his colleagues. They are all equally at one behind him. In the same way the Powers were in complete agreement regarding the Lincheng Note. That may appear an unlucky precedent to quote, considering how little has come of it so far. But we have not heard the last of the Lincheng demands. That they were signed by all the allied Powers was of immense importance, because only a limited number of them were directly concerned. The united front presented, as now in the Customs affair, is an important recognition of the fact that no Power can afford to appear unconcerned in the political disorganization of China. It is no longer a question of concession-hunting, or debt recovery, or imaginary privilege, in which jealousies might usefully be excited by the Waichiaopu. Whatever hits one nation in China, constructively hits all. And the circumstances of the time, the repeated flouting of treaty rights and illegal impositions must tend to draw the nations more and more closely together.

This unity inspires a hope that in due course a new policy towards China will be evolved by the Powers. The Lincheng Note marked at least the beginnings of one. In that document, it will be remembered, it was laid down that the Powers would henceforth hold the local officials responsible for what went on in their provinces; while the Government was further warned that its notifications that this or that area was unsafe for foreign travel would be accepted only for a time, at the end of which, if the Government were still unable to guarantee order in that area, the foreign Powers would reserve the right to take what action they deemed necessary. We

certainly would not appear to be putting Dr. Sun Yat-sen and the bandits of Paotzeku in the same boat. But it is none the less clear that in combining to prevent his interference with the Canton Customs, the Powers are applying the principles of the Lincheng Note. Their position, a perfectly legitimate one, is no more visibly assailed by a bandit attack on their nationals than by an attempt to seize the Customs or by illegal taxation. Indeed the last-named, though less spectacular, is by far the most serious offence, not only because it is more difficult to cope with, but because of the precedent established. Bandits can be fought and Customs stations protected. But an illegal tax imposed with success is immediately copied in other provinces and extended to other articles. It is quite as important that the Powers should combine to fight and destroy the cigarette tax in Chékiang and Kiangsu as to defend the Customs. The violation of treaty rights which, in the case of cigarettes, affects but one or two nations, will be repeated to-morrow to the injury of others, unless all combine to prevent it.

So far, however, we have only been considering the value of unity among the Powers in respect of resistance. And resistance, though highly necessary in crises of the kind mentioned, is no real policy, and is indeed most undesirable as a definition of all the Powers may be expected to do. It results in an atmosphere of perpetual friction, which reacts on all trade and peaceful dealings between Chinese and foreigner; and it is a game at which the oriental has infinitely more patience than the westerner. Is it impossible for the Powers to invent a new and constructive policy? The attempt was made at Washington, but on lines of excessive sentiment and a total disregard of facts, which have naturally brought their own reward, encouraging Chinese officials to believe that they could do whatever they pleased with impunity and forcing the Powers into a posture of self-defence which has compelled the stern wording of the Lincheng Note and sent the gunboats of half-a-dozen nations to Canton. The sugary platitudes of Washington have proved manifestly unworkable. But on the other hand, the policy of resist-

ance and nothing more is equally distasteful. What is wanted is a combination of the two, a programme of action which, while vigorously withstanding every violation of treaty rights, would breathe the benevolent spirit of Washington by offering some assistance for the solution of China's ills. Left to themselves it seems impossible that China's leaders can ever settle their differences. The purer their ideals, the more difficult they find it to yield at any point. They are, one and all, like the jurymen, who, after a protracted dispute over the verdict, complained that eleven more obstinate men he had never met. At the present time Sir Robert Ho Tung is stumping the country in hope of promoting a conference and to-day's article on another page shows that he has met with a point-blank refusal from Wu Pei-fu, who does not consider the time ripe. It will need a greater agency than one of their own countrymen to convince all the Chinese leaders that the time is ever ripe. The Powers could make the attempt successfully if they wished. For the purposes of it, they would have to recognize every leader in China for what he is, an independent ruler, and approach him personally. But that would, after all, be no more than applying the principles of the Lin-cheng Note, for constructive instead of punitive ends.

THE Ministry of Communications has ordered the managing directors of the Shanghai-Nanking, Tientsin-Pukow, Peking-Hankow, Peking-Mukden and Peking-Suiyuan Railways to increase their fares as from January 1 next.

ACCORDING to the Chinese press, as the Shanghai-Nanking Railway this year had made a record of \$3,000,000, the Chinese employees have presented to the Railway Administration a demand for a bonus of two months' pay. The Shanghai-Nanchow-Ningpo Railway also has made a profit and its employees are demanding a bonus of 1½ months' pay.

THE Provincial authorities of Kiangsu at Nanking have, states the Chinese press, expressed their approval of the proposed appointment of Mr. Chung Mun-yew, managing director of the Chinese Merchants' Bank, as director of the Chinese Telegraph Administration in Shanghai. Mr. Chung is an American returned student and was formerly managing director of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway.

NOTES & COMMENTS

Our Subscribers' Opinion

Subscribers to the "North-China Daily News" were recently invited to express their opinions on the new size and make-up of the paper. Their response has been wide and very informing, opinions having been expressed by about 1,000 subscribers in Shanghai and half as many more in the interior of China. We thank them for a mass of well-thought-out criticism; many complimentary remarks on the change; some whole-hearted condemnation of our deviation from the old landmarks; and an occasional sparkle of humour—sometimes unconscious. Among the latter is the suggestion that we print one section of advertisements and one of news and give the public the option of subscribing to whichever they prefer; another that we publish exchange quotations for to-morrow, as everybody knows what they were yesterday. To come to figures, the general opinion is expressed as follows:—

	per cent.
In favour of new format	70
In favour of old format	19
Miscellaneous comment	11

The principal adverse criticism is naturally against any change in the old order of things, viz., putting the temperature reading (once on the front page) after the daily weather report, which after all is the logical place for it; altering the position of the telegraphic news, etc. Another is against the practice of making up in two sections instead of one, which seven per cent. of those who replied object to. This latter change, we may again state, is dictated by mechanical requirement, and saves appreciable time in printing and publishing the paper.

Scaremongers in Shanghai

The local scaremongers appear to be having a regular beanfeast, and their predictions of coming trouble are without end. Marshal Tuan Chi-jui is the man who is giving them to most to talk about, for he is said to have given up his Buddhist studies and in his retreat in Tientsin is once more beginning to take a lively interest in politics. Accordingly, the opponents of President Tsao Kun have begun to look upon him as the leader *par excellence* of their faction, and there is no doubt that they are manœuvring for his appearance in that rôle. They will not, however, be satisfied with him as a political leader, but suggest a little venture in the direction of civil war, with Tuan as generalissimo. In one fashion or another they have been indulging in such talk of martial exploits for a long time now, and though rumours do infinite harm to the commerce of the provinces affected they have had one good effect, namely the signing of

the East China peace pact. That must have disappointed them, and if they could do so, they would persuade one or other of the parties to find an excuse for breaking it. Every now and again they bring from some more or less out of the way district reports of trench-digging and sand-bagging, and although it is perfectly true that a certain amount of such work has taken place, it does not seem to be worth describing as a serious piece of military defence. The work of these sensationalist politicians is harmful, but fortunately the people are all for peace and it is satisfactory to see that their strongly expressed views have in one recent instance at least been productive of good results.

Mr. Masterman Again

One of the most interesting election results to hand is that announcing the return of Mr. C. F. G. Masterman. He has not been in Parliament since 1914, in which year he constituted the rather rare spectacle of a Cabinet Minister without a seat in the House. He had been a useful subordinate member of Mr. Asquith's administration, and at the beginning of 1914, if we remember aright, it was decided to bring him into the Cabinet as Chancellor for the Duchy of Lancaster. That necessitated his standing for his constituency anew at a by-election, and he was defeated. Within the next two or three months he contested other constituencies—four or five of them—but fate was dead against him and finally he gave up what seemed a particularly unequal struggle. Soon afterwards he resigned the Cabinet, and although he occupied a minor position under the Government during the war he did not again come into the limelight. We rather think that his record of defeats was increased in the 1918 election. The fact that at long last he has again secured a seat in Parliament might almost be taken as suggesting that the tide of Liberalism is again flowing.

The Political Situation

The Parliamentary situation at Home develops apace, but, be it noted, not at all along the lines of the first messages following the election result. Mr. Baldwin, according to news at the time of writing, retains his position as leader of the Conservative Party, and rather than see a Labour Government, the Liberals are apparently prepared to accord him sufficient support so that he may carry on until such time as the country may have made up its mind. Readers will remember that the suggestion was put forward that Mr. Baldwin would retire from the leadership of the Conservative Party, opening the way for Lord Derby or Mr. Austen Chamberlain, but that is no longer suggested. The fact of the matter is that neither of these two, though both able men, can

compete with Mr. Baldwin, in grasp of facts and political situations, and the Conservatives apparently know it. Moreover, if the Conservatives are going back to office, as seems possible, Mr. Baldwin's personal popularity in the House and his easy handling of the recalcitrants will be invaluable. While Mr. Chamberlain is not equally gifted in that respect, it has also to be borne in mind that Labour stated unequivocally on the retirement of Mr. Bonar Law that it would insist with all its might that the Premier should be in the Commons. At the moment our suggestion of yesterday that political opinions in the Liberal Party are liable to develop in a highly interesting manner appears to be fully borne out by events. We have, however, only seen the first stage, and all manner of events may conspire to upset the looked for trend.

Proportional Representation

The exceptional state of the political parties at Home after the election focuses attention on many aspects of the political machinery. We refer, particularly, to the anomaly of the three-cornered election by which a candidate with a minority of votes in a constituency succeeds in obtaining a seat in Parliament. Apart from self-seeking politicians no one will be found to justify such an obviously defective state of affairs and it is surely time that the question of proportional representation received the attention of Parliament with a view to bringing in a measure for remedying the evil. Whenever the question has been raised in the past it has been burked, partly, perhaps, because the older Liberal and Conservative Parties realized that it gave them a certain advantage over the untried Labourites with their comparative lack of electioneering organization and party funds. In the present election, however, in a large number of cases Labour has triumphed despite the triangular contest. Nevertheless, the anomaly still exists—an insult to the electors who wish to have as their members only those really representing the opinion of the majority in their respective constituencies. No valid arguments have ever been brought against proportional representation: as a matter of fact the system has been incorporated into the constitution of the Irish Free State. It is a much needed reform and deserves a trial.

The State of Trade

Having in a rash moment given certain of our Notes & Comments a somewhat commercial, or at least financial tinge, it appears almost impossible to get away from it. The general public seems at the moment to be specially interested in these matters, and

so we begin to receive almost daily communications for insertion. The latest to arrive draws our attention to a column appearing in the commercial section of the "Manchester Guardian" entitled "A Business Man's Diary" in which the following story receives currency, having come from a Lancashire business man who is in the peerage: Two commercial travellers, stranded in Scotland over the week-end, went to church. The sermon, which was on the life hereafter, was discussed between the two after the service. One expressed the view that there was no such place as hell, and the other answered: "Well, then, where's all the trade gone to?" This reminds the correspondent who sends it us of the sharebroker who returned to Shanghai recently after a holiday. Meeting a fellow broker on the Bund, he inquired: "Well, how's business?" "Sh! Speak reverently of the dead", replied the other.

Worthless Bank Notes

We had occasion some days ago to draw our readers' attention to the circulation of certain worthless bank-notes, alleged to have been issued by the Bank of China, and dated June 1, 1912, under the mark of "Shanghai." It may assist readers to know of another case of equally worthless counterfeit Bank of China notes which are apparently also in circulation. They bear the date September, 1918—the same as appears on one issue of genuine notes—but otherwise have little resemblance to the true specimen. So palpably false are they that probably only the main features have been reproduced by photography. The signatures appear to have been ingeniously forged, but the note differs in almost every other respect. The real note is larger than the counterfeit, and is printed in pink ink (not brown) and on better paper than the false one. The false notes have no letters before their numbering: the real ones have. The printing of the false note is extremely poor and the size of the type differs from the real note. The word "Shanghai" in the tint type of the false note is divided into two words, and the words "Yuen" and "Yuan" in the same type should all be "Yuan." The word "Governor" on the false note is covered by Chinese characters, while on the real note it is printed plainly and separately. Apart from these few discrepancies, there are quite a number of others which are, however, of a minor nature, though still recognizable.

Armed Robberies

The suggestions made by Chinese merchants for dealing with the armed robbery evil in Shanghai are in one respect at least fully justified by the facts of the case. This is that capital punishment should be meted out to all of those convicted, instead of, as in the great majority of cases now, a sentence of imprisonment being

passed. The Western outlook on humanity and its misdeeds makes it difficult to support a scheme which seems to allow of no alternative to the death penalty, but we are face to face with an evil whose magnitude has become more pronounced each succeeding year and which shows no tendency to be curbed by the infliction even of long sentences of imprisonment. It is already the practice of the Mixed Court to send the worst offenders to the Arsenal, where the death penalty is carried out, but the numbers who have thus paid to the utmost for their crimes is apparently not large enough to act as a real deterrent, and if so, incarceration in the Municipal Gaol must hold no terrors for the culprits. The Chinese merchants in their petition now ask that all these criminals be dealt with "according to Chinese law," under which the death sentence is imposed for this special crime, and on the assumption that they know their countrymen a great deal better than we do, there seems a good case for giving heed to their suggestion. After all, the greater proportion of this bad element come from outside the Settlement, and knowing what penalty would await them in their own locality, there need be no squeamishness in handing them back to their own authorities. The other suggestions by the merchants are by no means so readily approved of, and a proposal to arm watchmen with rifles would require very careful consideration prior to adoption.

A Local Artist

What is described as "one of the most interesting exhibitions of paintings likely to be given by the Peking Institute of Fine Arts this season" possesses a special attraction for Shanghai, the pictures being by Mr. R. W. Paulden who was formerly stationed here. It consists, we learn from the Peking papers, of about 50 oil and water colours, and those who have attended the exhibition have referred in the most appreciative manner to them. Referring to a private exhibition given a week ago the "Far Eastern Times" says:—

Judging by the enthusiasm shown by those present, the exhibition is sure of success, for the pictures elicited very favourable comment from the several Peking artists who were present and who confirmed the approval of less gifted onlookers. The work shows real ability, both in technique and in catching atmosphere. The window design for the Kailan Mining Administration's building in Tientsin deserves special mention for the very vivid impression of industry in several activities. Two or three pictures in subdued tints attract by their effective restraint.

A number of the pictures are known in Shanghai, having been exhibited in the Country Club in November, 1920. The others consist of paintings made in the Philippine Islands, Java, Hongkong and Peking.

CHINESE POLITICS

DR. SUN AND CANTON CUSTOMS

No Word of Truth in Reported Taking Over by Foreign Naval Forces

From O. M. Green.

Hongkong, Dec. 7.

Sensational reports have been published here to the effect that foreign naval forces had seized the Canton Customs Offices in order to anticipate action by Dr. Sun Yat-sen. There is not a word of truth in them. Both the British and the French Admirals arrived here to-day from Canton. Present indications are that Dr. Sun Yat-sen is taking time to consider what course to adopt.

Peking, Dec. 7.

While no statement regarding the landing of foreign marines at Canton to protect the Maritime Customs is obtainable from the Waichiaopu, well-informed Chinese circles are of opinion that the Government had previous knowledge of this action on the part of the foreign Powers, and they point out the necessity of maintaining the integrity of this great revenue, dwelling on the present inability of the Government to safeguard its own interest at Canton. Furthermore, it is pointed out that Dr. Sun Yat-sen's forces have recently been increased and that if he should be allowed to handle the Customs revenues they would be used to prosecute hostilities against the Government.

Intelligence from Canton indicates that the foreign Powers are acting conjointly.

The present naval concentration at Canton consists of four British vessels, one French, two American and one Japanese, while one Italian gunboat is speeding to join the others.—Reuter.

Hongkong, Dec. 7.

No confirmation of the reported seizure of the Customs House has been received from Canton.

The "Canton Gazette," in an editorial article, says: "The people of Kuangtung would suffer untold miseries should trouble arise between the foreign Powers and the Southern Government over the Customs surplus question. Not only will the market here be gravely affected but the market at Shanghai would likewise be thrown into panic. We cannot emphasize the enormity of such a consequence and would caution both sides to proceed very carefully in the interest of millions of innocent Chinese."—Reuter.

Assertion of Right to Control Application of Kuang- tung Revenues

Canton, Dec. 7.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen has authorized publication of the following state-

ment on the question of the Customs surplus:—

"Disorders and invasions organized and financed by the Chihli Party through the Peking Government, which is its tool, have prevented me from carrying out the work of reconstruction on which I had decided when I returned to Canton last February.

"It is clear that the Chihli Party will persist in its destructive policy as long as the same can be financed out of the surplus national revenues released.

"These surplus national revenues are made up partly of moneys which would not be available for the use of the Chihli Party if the Customs duties collected within the territory of my Government were retained for the use and benefit of the people of this Province, instead of being remitted to Peking, as is now being done, and applied in the interests of the Chihli Party.

"If there is to be peace and order in Kuangtung, further payment of Kuangtung Customs revenues to the Chihli Party must cease. My Government therefore intends to assert its right to control application of these revenues, and it will require the Inspector-General of Customs and the Commissioner of Customs at Canton—who, being servants of the Chinese Government, are with respect to Kuangtung under and subject to the order of my Government—to hold all Customs revenues collected within its territory at the disposal of the Government so long as the Customs revenues from the East of China are sufficient to meet foreign commitments charged on the Customs.

FOREIGN TREATY RIGHTS.

"The Foreign Powers have no right to intervene in the matter, because there is an annual surplus of millions of dollars from the Customs revenues collected at the ports outside the territory of my Government, even after providing for the service of foreign debts secured on the Customs.

"There is not and never has been any Treaty conferring on the Foreign Powers, collectively or individually, the right to interfere with the Chinese Maritime Customs (which is first and last a Chinese Government service) so long as default is not made in payment of foreign obligations charged thereon. Indeed, it is admitted by the Foreign Powers that the disposal and application of the Customs surplus is wholly a Chinese internal question.

"Even under the existing system of semi-control of the Customs revenues by the Foreign Powers—which it cannot too strongly be emphasized is not authorized by any Treaty, but is simply an extra-Treaty procedure imposed by the Foreign Powers—no reasonable objection can be taken to the course which my Government has resolved to follow in order to prevent the Chihli Party from further financing

disorder and war in my native province.

"I have to add that my Government is willing to undertake that, in the event of the Customs revenues from the rest of China being insufficient to meet foreign obligations, it will make good any deficit to the extent of the Customs revenues received by it from time to time."

Reply to the Diplomatic Body: The Rumoured Landing of Foreign Naval Forces

Peking, Dec. 8.

While other Legations assert that they have not received any report of the landing of blue-jackets at Canton, the following Italian wireless message has been handed to Reuter:—

"Canton, Dec. 7.—The Italian cruiser Calabria, which left Shanghai on December 2, arrived at Canton yesterday and participated in the landing of blue-jackets representing five nationalities with the object of preventing seizure of the Maritime Customs by Dr. Sun Yat-sen."

Replying to the recent intimation from the Diplomatic Body which reached Dr. Sun Yat-sen through the Consular Corps at Canton, in which Dr. Sun Yat-sen was informed that force would be used if he persisted in interfering with the Customs, Dr. C. C. Wu handed to the Consular Corps a Note stating that the Customs was a Chinese institution and must be under the control of the Canton Government. The Canton Government wished to give orders to the Commissioner of Customs at Canton to discontinue remittances to Peking and to hand over the Customs revenue to the Canton Government in order to meet the latter's expenses. This did not mean interference with the Customs, which was an internal matter. The Note, in conclusion, said that the action of the Canton Government cannot be considered premature. The Canton Government was prepared to wait a fortnight for the Diplomatic Body's reply.—Reuter.

Canton, Dec. 8.

The administration of the Maritime Customs is carrying on as usual in spite of repeated local reports that Dr. Sun Yat-sen is threatening to interfere.—Reuter.

Note:—The remainder of the telegram has been censored.

Peking, Dec. 10.

A meeting of the Cabinet on Saturday resolved to ask the Powers concerned exactly what has happened at Canton, indicating their desire to know what the naval commanders have been instructed to do in the event of Dr. Sun Yat-sen seizing the Customs.

The Legations concerned have received a Note to this effect.—Reuter.

Peking, Dec. 11.

A meeting of the Diplomatic Body to-day resolved to

send a further communication to the Central Government regarding Dr. Sun Yat-sen's threat to take over the Customs in Canton, saying that in the interests of foreigners as well as of the Chinese Government it was essential to maintain the integrity of the Maritime Customs.

The communication from the Government relating to the Canton Customs was in the form of a memorandum and was sent to each Legation concerned asking whether the naval forces of the five Powers had made a landing at Canton and, if so, in what circumstances?—Reuter.

Manila, Dec. 11.

It is unofficially though reliably stated that the United States destroyers Peary, Polk, Pillsbury, Preston, Sicard and Noa will depart for Hongkong on rush orders this afternoon.—Reuter.

Correspondence with Diplomatic Body to be Published

Peking, Dec. 12.

The Diplomatic Body yesterday evening replied to the Waichiao-pu's recent inquiry by a Note acknowledging receipt by the various Legations of said inquiry and saying that the foreign vessels were concentrated in Canton waters with a view to safeguarding the Maritime Customs, which is pledged to the Boxer Indemnity and various foreign loans. The naval forces, however, did not carry out a landing.

The reply of the Diplomatic Corps to Dr. Sun Yat-sen was sent yesterday evening through the Consular Body at Canton and not the Waichiao-pu.

The Diplomatic Body yesterday resolved shortly to publish all recent correspondence relating to Dr. Sun Yat-sen's threat.—Reuter.

Fresh Demands on Likin

Canton, Dec. 12.

The silk merchants of Canton are greatly annoyed over the conflicting military authorities trying to collect likin, disregarding previous arrangements by which advance payments were made to relieve the recent financial embarrassments of the authorities. The trade in silk has practically stopped.—Reuter.

Gold Franc Issue Said to be Settled

Peking, Dec. 12.

The "Fi Shih Pao" reports that a settlement of the gold franc issue has been reached as an outcome of negotiations between the French Minister and the Minister of Finance, Mr. Wang Keh-ming, based on the 1901 Treaty under which the Kuanping tael is reckoned as equal to three gold francs seventy-five centimes.—Reuter.

PEKING'S POLITICAL PROBLEMS

Disputes over Speakership and Premiership: A Cabinet without a Head

Peking, Dec. 7.

Mr. Kao Ling-wei, Taoli Premier, did not attend the meeting of the Cabinet yesterday afternoon, over which Dr. Wellington Koo presided. Mr. Cheng Keh, Minister of Justice, was also absent. It is reported that Mr. Cheng was attending a meeting of the Hsianchengtang, or Constitutional Party, of the House of Representatives. It is stated that nothing of real importance occurred at the Cabinet meeting.

As regards the meeting of the Parliamentary Constitutional Party, well-informed Chinese circles state that the question of Mr. Sun Pao-chi's appointment as Premier was discussed, together with the right of Mr. Wu Ching-lien to continue as Speaker of the House.

According to one report it was resolved that the Government's supporters in the House should leave on future occasions if Mr. Wu retained the Chair, while another report describes yesterday's meeting of the Tang as the beginning of a straight issue between Mr. Kao Ling-wei and Mr. Wu Ching-lien.

One of the reports is accompanied by the assertion that Mr. Wang Fah-chi urged the introduction of a bill to appoint a Provisional Speaker of the House at the next session, on the ground that Mr. Wu is no longer competent to act.

It is officially announced that the Government has abolished the post of Military Commissioner at Shihheh, Hupeh Province. Henceforth the Military Commissioner at Ichang, General Lu Chin-shan, will be in control of military affairs of Shihheh.

The Government has given instructions to the Special Commissioners to complete their investigation into poppy cultivation by the end of this year. Their report is to be sent to the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

Mr. Wu Ting-chang, former Vice-Minister of Finance and now President of the Salt Bank, will leave shortly for America to study banking conditions in the United States.

CHINESE TRADE MARKS LAW.

The period of notice given by the Chinese Government for the application of the Chinese Trade Marks Law, when it was published in May last, has now expired and the situation is still unsatisfactory. The foreign Powers have not expressed their compliance with the regulations, which officially are still under consideration by the various Governments.

As the result of inquiries in the various quarters concerned, Reuter's Agency learns that there is

little, if any, dissatisfaction with the regulations themselves. Indeed, they are generally described as revealing a real attempt on the part of China to place this old vexed question on a satisfactory footing. Some irritation was caused, however, by the manner in which the Ministry of Commerce introduced the law. It was not communicated to the Diplomatic Body before promulgation. This was a departure from the procedure usually followed by the Chinese Government in measures directly affecting foreigners.

The position at present is that while the Chinese Government has established bureaux in various centres, at which foreign firms are asked to register their trade marks, foreigners still adhere to the treaties whereby their trade marks are registered with the Customs Authorities at Tientsin and Shanghai. Thus two departments are dealing with the same thing.

With regard to the necessity for foreign co-operation in making it effective from the international standpoint, emphasis is laid upon the need for foreign recognition of this law so that foreigners who infringe its provisions may be amenable to punishment by their own courts. Until the law has been accepted by the foreign Powers as applicable to their nationals its action can only be one-sided.—Reuter.

The Weihaiwei Commissioner

Peking, Dec. 10.

Mr. M. T. Liang telegraphed to the Government to-day saying that it was imperative that he should go abroad as he was really ill, and that he had therefore sent his seal of office and documents relating to his post as Head of the Weihaiwei Retrocession Commission to the Waichiao-pu.—Reuter.

A NEW PEACE TREATY

Efforts on the part of a number of prominent Chinese to effect a peace treaty between Kiangsi and Chékiang are meeting with much success. A pact, drawn up on lines similar to the ones entered into between Chékiang and Kiangsu and Chékiang and Anhui, has been signed and sealed by Gen. Lu Yung-hsiang, Director-General for the Reorganization of Military Affairs in Chékiang, and Gen. Chang Tsai-yang, Civil Governor of Chékiang, and is now on its way to Nanchang where it will be signed and sealed by Gen. Tsai Cheng-hsun, Governor of Kiangsi, who has agreed to do this and to enter into a peace alliance with Chékiang. All concerned will do their best to maintain peace and order and to protect only their own provinces.

The people of Takhing have recently raised a sum of \$50,000 for the establishment of an up-to-date educational institution there.

OUTPORTS

THE ANCIENT PORT OF MACAO

Harbour Disadvantages: Plans To Restore Commercial Enterprise

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Dec. 3.

Nothing is of more interest to the Portuguese in China than the revival of the port of Macao. This ancient and picturesque settlement went into a decline with the decline of sailing ships, the opening of interior ports in Kuangtung and the inevitable rise of Hongkong. Macao's two most obvious weaknesses are that the harbour is full of silt and will accomodate nothing bigger than river steamers and that the port has no direct line of land communication with the immediate interior. For these two very good reasons this historical Portuguese settlement has for many years kept up running expenses through local taxes upon opium, gambling and similar enterprises which have earned a community that deserved better a bad name.

In recent years the Portuguese authorities have taken this situation seriously. The present Governor of Macao and the Portuguese Minister in Peking, His Excellency J. B. De Freitas, have worked indefatigably to have their Home Government recognize the importance of reestablishing Macao as a *bona fide* commercial community. Macao has a rich hinterland and, with a very short line of railway, might easily be as important a port as Swatow if the harbour were prepared to receive ships which could take out accumulated local produce and bring in supplies for the adjacent country.

Mr. De Freitas, who has acted with singular distinction as Dean of the Diplomatic Body for many months past, will leave Peking for Lisbon, December 11, ostensibly on leave but principally to bring before his Government his plans for the rehabilitation of Macao. Through his efforts, strongly seconded by those of the present Governor of Portugal's delightful little Chinese colony, it has already been possible to start harbour dredging, upon which a Netherlands firm is now employed. Once Macao is available to deep sea ships nothing will be required to convert a sleepy pleasure resort into a living port but adequate connexion with the interior. Under present political conditions it is obviously impossible to discuss railway enterprise in Kuangtung, but when the inevitable adjustment comes, it is hoped that some arrangement with the Chinese will be possible through which a line will be built from Macao to Hsiangshan (Houngsan) and thence to Kong-

moon, connecting Macao with one of the richest interior agricultural districts in China. When this it a *fait accompli* much that is picturesque and attractive, in Macao, chiefly because of its native wickedness, will disappear; but the recompense will be a rich new field for commercial endeavour which will very quickly find ways of compensating the sentimentalist.

CHINESE GOVERNMENT BONDS

Ultimatum to Holders of Bonds

Issued in Germany: Stock

Exchange's Firm Reply

London, Dec. 11.

The Stock Exchange Committee announces that it has learned that unless certain special declarations are signed by the presenter of coupons and bonds, the Chinese Government declines to pay either the interest or principal to holders of bonds issued in Germany of the Chinese Gold 5 per cent. Loan, 1896, Chinese Gold 4½ per cent. Bonds, 1898, and Hukuang Railway 5 per cent. Bonds, 1911.

The Stock Exchange Committee has informed the agents that unless the terms of issue of such bonds are carried out in full, it will not in future grant a quotation of any new issue. They state, further, that unless satisfactory answers are received, they will take into consideration the removal from the daily official list of such of the loans already quoted as contain bonds whose coupons have not been met in accordance with the terms of issue.

A similar warning has been issued in respect of the London issue of the Rumanian 4½ per cent. Loan, 1913.—Reuter.

Statement by M. Poincaré

Paris, Dec. 12.

M. Poincaré, replying to a letter from M. Tardieu on behalf of a number of holders of the Chinese 5 per cent. 1913 (?) Loan who have not been paid their dividends since September, 1921, states that, as far as this particular loan is concerned, the Chinese Government can invoke no valid reason to justify non-payment of dividends.

French diplomacy has continued to urge the absolute necessity of China's respecting her obligations with regard to French holders of the loan. Political instability in China has rendered vain the steps hitherto taken in that connexion by the French Legation in Peking, but negotiations will be renewed as soon as a new Government is constituted and will be followed up with all regard for French interests.—Reuter.

*Possibly this alludes to the Russian portion of the 1913 Loan, of which the Bolsheviks sold the duplicate scrip—Ed.

A CHIHLI-FENGTIEN ALLIANCE

Is An Understanding Possible?

Gen. Chang Tso-lin's View:

"A Matter of Policy"

By Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Dec. 4.

There has been much less talk here of the Spring War for several weeks past because both foreigners and Chinese are gradually coming to believe that some sort of a reconciliation between the Fengtien and Chihli parties is not only possible but probable. The Japanese press has undoubtedly contributed most to the conversion of foreigners to this belief. In the past the Japanese news agencies have invariably been the first to carry denials from Mukden of all rumours of negotiations with Tsao Kun. Now they are reporting the advances made from both sides and seem to believe that an understanding is possible. This has greatly influenced foreign opinion because it is recognized that the Japanese are usually more nearly right than anyone in their Manchurian news reports. Chinese hopes for a peace treaty between Chang Tso-lin and Tsao Kun have been stimulated greatly by the fact that the Fengtien chief sent a special agent, a Mr. Chang Chinch'iu, to Peking on the occasion of the President's birthday to present the usual respects and congratulations. The reception accorded this individual has apparently prompted a fresh exchange of deputations. It is reported in the local Japanese press that the Chihli folk are sending Wang Chan-yuan, Li Chi-ch'un and Pao Kuei-ching to Mukden, while Hsu Lan-chou, one of the senior members of the old Hunghutze organization, and a Mr. Li are being sent hither from Mukden. Another report has it that Wang Chan-yuan has gone to Loyang before going to Mukden.

Many Chinese observers think that while these negotiations are *bona fide* and will lead to an understanding, Chang Tso-lin is not entering into them with any great enthusiasm but has consented to negotiate as a matter of policy, in the first place because the old Hunghutze leaders already have some sort of an understanding with the Chihli leaders and insist upon a *rapprochement* and, in the second place because he wants to be relieved for a time of the fear of invasion from Chihli so that he can concentrate upon local problems, both domestic and foreign.

THE Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce has instructed the Chinese Chambers of Commerce of Shanghai to investigate into the working of the new factory laws which were put into effect some time ago, and to see whether they are satisfactory and are being carried out properly.

CHIH LI PARTY AND CHEN CHIUNG-MING.

End of Dr. Sun Yat-sen Believed Near: Chen's Past
Friendship for Tuan Chi-jui: Who's Man is He?

By Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Dec. 3.

Peking is now profoundly interested in three issues, none of which is of the least fundamental importance. The first is the disposition of Wu Ching-lien, Speaker of the House of Representatives, who has taken matters into his own hands and has decided that, with a minority following of one-seventh of the membership, he will stay. The second is the question of the police chief in Shanghai which it is thought cannot be settled without a fight between Kuangsu and Chékíang, and which Peking is therefore preparing to settle through a Fukien assault on Chékíang. And the third is the question of Chen Chiung-ming's loyalty to his salt, or his dollars, or whatever one likes to call it.

In spite of Sun Yat-sen's reoccupation of Shihlung (Sheklung), it is still assumed in all quarters North of the Yangtze that Dr. Sun will have to leave Kuangtung and that, once gone, he can never return. This assumption is based chiefly upon Cantonese assurances from abroad that Dr. Sun is discredited among Chinese in foreign countries and will henceforth be deprived of the liberal remittances which have hitherto enabled him to recoup after each defeat and to command the loyalty of a great number of very clever people who have never been known to trade their loyalty for nothing.

It is assumed in the North that Chen Chiung-ming will eventually be the winner in Kuangtung; but where and how he will stand after a victory no one pretends to know. It is said here that if he had dealt more tactfully with the Yunnanese freebooters in his recent skirmishes the Kuangtung war would already have ended. The Yunnanese mercenaries long ago saw the cloud of failure settling upon Dr. Sun and his little desperate clique. Having no way out of Kuangtung they decided that it was about time to find a new Cantonese paymasters. During the battles about Shihlung they attempted to propitiate Chen Chiung-ming by firing in the air and yielding the field. Chen Chiung-ming's commanders recognized the signal clearly enough but also understood that if they killed off Dr. Sun and company by special grace of the Yunnanese they would have to pay the Yunnanese. No one but a very desperate man like Dr. Sun, who is ready to confiscate property to support the Yunnanese, is ready to take over Kuangtung while the bandits from the West are in occupation. Hence the Chen Chiung-ming following decided that it was a better gamble to attempt an extermina-

tion of the Yunnan folk while they were in retreat than to buy Sun Wen's elimination at the cost of their continued support. The Yunnanese therefore caught the Chen fire in their backs, were properly enraged, and turned with unusual fury upon Dr. Sun's enemies. Hence the loss of Shihlung. Governor Chi Hsieh-yuan of Kiangsu, in the northern interest, wasted much energy and much travelling money upon delegates in persuading the Yunnanese to fire in the air at Shihlung so that the Chihli folk are duly disgruntled.

To come back to the question of the Chen Chiung-ming's probable allegiance, this is an even more disturbing question than the Yunnanese reaction. One has to review modern history to understand it. When Tutuh Chen Chiung-ming was evicted from Kuangtung he went to Europe, having escaped Yuan Shih-kai's heavy hand through the connivance of a French priest and the guidance of a fellow Hakka, Mr. Huang Ch'iang, who had learned French in the Canton cathedral school. After some months in France and Italy, Messrs Chen and Huang returned to China and proceeded to Peking, arriving after Yuan's death in 1916 when Tuan Chi-jui took over control of the northern army. Marshal Tuan was then very anxious to rule Lu Yung-ting out of the South and to support Lung Chi-kuang. Lung however eventually lost his hold and retired to Hainan, as we all remember, while Lu Yung-ting and Dr. Sun eventually combined to form a Kuangtung-Kuansi military government in Canton. Pending these developments Marshal Tuan had appointed Mr. Chu Ching-lan (now at Harbin under Chang Tso-lin) civil governor of Kuangtung; and one of his conditions in ratifying the appointment was that the Lu Ying (later Hsun Fangchun), attached to the civil governor's yamen, should be turned over to Chen Chiung-ming, then living with Mr. Huang Ch'iang in the Chang An Hotel in Peking. To this stipulation Mr. Chu Ching-lan agreed so all went South together and in Kuangtung, the Lu Ying, such as they were, were eventually turned over to Chen and sent into Fukien with him, financial support being given by Marshal Tuan Chi-jui. Chen Chiung-ming's later return into Kuangtung with 20,000 troops, in place of the 7,000 (20 ying) that he had led out of the province, was also financed, in part at least, by Marshal Tuan.

The question now is: Who's man is he?

Many of the Chihli people believe that General Chen Chiung-

ming is at this moment in closer touch with Marshal Tuan Chi-jui than with any other political leader. It will be remembered that when Governor Lu Yung-hsiang of Chékíang recently sanctioned Chang Chih-ping's attack upon Chen's forces in Swatow, Marshal Tuan was so angry with Lu that a breach of relations was threatened and the Chihli folk talked of making Lu vice-president to complete the breach.

Meanwhile, however, the Chihli party has spent funds liberally upon General Chen Chiung-ming's campaign against Dr. Sun. The Peking Chihli organization has already spent \$1,200,000 upon the campaign. Governor Chi Hsien-yuan is said to have spent, out of Kiangsu provincial funds, something like \$400,000. Chen's allegiance is therefore naturally a subject of excited speculation.

GUNBOAT'S ENCOUNTER WITH PIRATES

Junk Rescued by H. M. S. Robin
and Towed to Safety: Absurd
Report Refuted

From O. M. Green.

Hongkong, Dec. 7.

On November 26, H.M.S. Robin, when en route from Kongmoon to Pearl Island, by way of Sailam Channel, encountered a party of pirates who were looting a junk. The pirates fired upon H.M.S. Robin and the latter replied, causing several casualties. The Robin then towed the junk safely to Sailam.

These are facts which gave rise to the absurd story of the capture of H.M.S. Robin by pirates.

So far no report has been received by us as to the supposed capture by pirates of H.M.S. Robin.

Marshal Wu Pei-Fu and the Opium Traffic

Peking, Dec. 10.

Marshal Wu Pei-fu, in officially reporting that he had taken over the duties of Inspector-General of Chihli, Shantung and Honan, stated that he had received the Government's instructions regarding opium traffic in those provinces, and added that he would do his best to eradicate both cultivation and traffic as soon as possible.—Reuter.

CANTON again has a daily newspaper printed in English, the "Canton Gazette" having made its appearance, being precisely similar in style to the "Canton Daily News," which recently suspended publication. It is stated to be "strictly a private organ as distinguished from a Government organ, and is owned by a private merchant with no governmental or part affiliation of any kind."

SIR ROBERT HO TUNG'S VISIT TO MARSHALL WU PEI-FU

Triumphal Train Journey to Loyang: The Wonderful
Loess Country: Wu Pei-fu's Obstinacy: The
Time Not Ripe for a Conference

We have received a very interesting account of Sir Robert Ho Tung's visit to Loyang for the purpose of interviewing Marshal Wu Pei-fu regarding the proposal for a Round Table Conference. We also append a speech delivered by Sir Robert in Hankow on his return from Loyang inasmuch as it corrects a misleading statement which appeared in the Chinese press to the effect that Wu Pei-fu had refused to support the scheme on the ground that he would be able to subjugate the southern provinces in five months by military methods.

The account of the journey to Loyang and what passed there, which is contained in a letter dated December from a British member of Sir Robert's staff, runs as follows:

"We left Shanghai on Saturday morning, November 10, and arrived at Hankow on Monday morning at about 9 o'clock.

JOURNEY TO LOYANG.

"On the 14th instant, we left for Loyang by the morning train at 11 o'clock. The journey along this route is full of interest. A couple of hours out of Hankow, we came to the former bed of the Yellow River. It seemed so extraordinary, to look on the dried-up bed of this famous river, with its white sandy bottom gleaming in the sun. The railway line follows the old bed for some considerable distance; then we came to very hilly country, where there appeared scarcely a square foot of level ground, and one wondered how the people's pedal extremities were affected who had to go up and down all their lives.

"I forget to mention that Sir Robert had a very successful interview with Marshal Hsiao Yao-nan (High Inspecting Commissioner of Hunan and Hupeh—Ed.), on which account he had decided to proceed to Loyang to interview the great Chihli leader, Marshal Wu Pei-fu. An A. D. C. of the Tschun travelled with the party all the way to Loyang, and there was a guard of nine soldiers in our carriage. Owing to commanding by the military, no first class coach was available for Sir Robert, and he was asked to wait one day, but he said comfort was a secondary consideration to the importance of his mission, so we had a second-class carriage placed at our entire disposal, and slept that night on hard boards.

"As a matter of fact, whether the coach was comfortable or not, I don't think we could have got much sleep at all events. After leaving Hankow, at every station

the train stopped at, a guard of honour was drawn up—sometimes 30 men with officers and buglers, sometimes 60 men with a band, all to do Sir Robert honour. The officers boarded the car, and cards were exchanged, and then Sir Robert had to alight and inspect the guard. This sort of thing went on all night, regimental lanterns lighting up the display in the dark. The honour became an embarrassment. After nine o'clock Sir Robert demurred about further inspection, and retired. I could not sleep. No sooner was I dozing off than would come the blare of trumpets, the shouting of commands, the stopping of the train, and then, as we left, again went the trumpets. Sir Robert did not budge from his compartment: he must have pretended to be asleep. He left a sheaf of his cards with the Tschun's A. D. C., a mild-looking, clear-complexioned young man of about 22. He was a marvel. He kept up with the game of receiving the officers right on till we reached Chengchow at 6 a.m., where trains were to be changed, and he looked quite fresh and didn't seem a bit fagged out.

CITY OF CHENGCHOW.

"At Chengchow, where Sir Robert paid a visit with the young A. D. C. to the Military Commissioner, we had a respite three hours. Sleepy, unshaven, breakfastless, I determined to see something of the city, so got Mr. Kong ('Shunpao's' man, who came as a sort of Chinese secretary) to go with me. After a long drive in the cold morning, we were satisfied that Chengchow was not much of a place, and we happily found a French cafe, where we had ham and eggs and coffee and toast. Sir Robert had then returned from his official call, so we told him about the cafe, but he was on fast, and only Lady Ho Tung and the young A. D. C. partook of breakfast. Sir Robert and I went to a nearby hair-dressing saloon, where the Chinese barber shaved me most atrociously, making me bleed on the lip and chin. I looked up a couple of curio shops at that early hour, but found nothing worth buying.

"We left Chengchow at about 9 o'clock. Very soon we ran into the wonderful loess country, and I was a good bit thrilled that my eyes should see what I had read and heard so much about. Imagine a country of thousands of square miles of elevated land of a peculiar sandstone formation, and picture to yourself deep chasms and corro-

sions, with stretches of cultivated plain showing, and in these huge blocks and walls the people dig out their dwellings. On this portion of our journey we also came into view of the present course of the Yellow River.

"Loyang was reached at about two in the afternoon, and our coach was shunted off to Marshal Wu Pei-fu's military headquarters, to the east of the city. Presently, two motor-cars arrived, with the Marshal's A. D. C., a secretary and four guards. Sir Robert was whirled off to see Marshal Wu Pei-fu, while Lady Ho Tung was conveyed in the other car to visit Madame Wu. More than an hour later, the cars returned for the luggage, and after one trip one of the cars came back for Mr. Kong and myself (I had point-blank refused to go with the servants or be bundled with the luggage), and an orderly came to invite "our excellencies please to be so good as to allow our high honours to be respectfully conveyed to the guest house of the Marshal"—which we did, and felt, if not looked, fearfully important.

A HARD TIME.

"When we got there, we found Sir Robert very excited. He said, 'Oh! I have had a hard time with this man Wu Pei-fu. He is terrible. Wait till I tell you everything.' However, we first got into our rooms in the guest building, a large brick building of one story, containing two main wings, one of which was given over wholly to Sir Robert and his wife and the two maid-servants, and the other wing to Mr. Kong and myself, but our bedroom contained five beds, and during our stay, provincial representatives and military officers came and went and occupied or more of the other beds, as the case may be.

"Our stay at Loyang was the experience of a lifetime. I think even for a man of Sir Robert's varied experiences, it must have left a strong impression. Sir Robert, apart from Wu Pei-fu's immovability as far as the Conference was concerned, was treated like a foreign Minister. He certainly was accorded unusual kindness, and I rather think we must have upset the routine of the place by our five days' stay there, and the cook also—albeit he took delight in serving some most artistic and tasty dishes—must have thanked Heaven when we left, for we dined, lunched and breakfasted foreign fashion right through.

"On the evening of our arrival, we were of course feasted. Sir Robert dined with Wu Pei-fu and four others (we were guests at the Marshal's home) in a separate room, while his A. D. C. and two secretaries and certain important politicians (rascally-looking) or military representatives from the warring provinces kept us two (Kong and myself) company in another room. Just before we sat down to dinner,

Wu Pei-fu came in and shook hands with me, asking in Shantung dialect, "Of what nationality are you?" and I turned to one of his secretaries who spoke Cantonese who answered that I was British. We sat down to a very good spread, and I drank with the A. D. C., a huge, puffy looking chap with a pair of black moustaches, who disdained the ordinary small pewter cup and drank out of a tea-cup, and finding I could drink, he also ordered a tea-cup for me, and I kept pace with him, and so, I suppose, raised myself a good bit in his estimation, he being of the type that finds a good fellow-tippler one whom he could esteem. But, of course, I drank very carefully.

"Of the actual result of our journey to Loyang, as far as Sir Robert's project was concerned, I will relate to you some other time, and I shall have a lot of other things to tell. To cut short this letter, or I shall never finish, I will say that we left Loyang on the 21st for Kaifengfu, but we had to terminate abruptly or stay there, leaving the same evening, owing to a chill which Sir Robert had contracted at Loyang, and which was showing danger signals. So we went straight back to Hankow, and here we are still, Sir Robert having but only two days ago started walking around again.

"This house in which we are living is one of the finest private residences in Hankow. Everything is of the best and there is a definite air of refinement and absolute cleanliness characteristic of high-class Cantonese families. Mrs. Kuan, our hostess, is a sweet and charming lady, and both she, but she particularly, and her husband, are doing their best to make Sir Robert and Lady and myself feel that we are in our own homes."

SPEECH AT HANKOW.

On his return to Hankow Sir Robert delivered the following speech at the Chinese Merchant Club in Hankow:

I appreciate very deeply the honour that has been done to me in giving me this unique opportunity of meeting so many of the leading men in Hankow. There are among you, not only merchants and bankers and business men, but men holding official positions, as well as educationists and others in different spheres of life: and I believe there is not one among you who, realizing the present state of affairs in this country, but desires to see the re-establishment of peace, of real peace.

Of my humble labours in connexion with my proposed Round Table Conference, you may perhaps already have heard. My object is to endeavour to bring the different leaders together, to have them meet each other face to face, to settle their outstanding differences, and finally, to work, not against each other, but harmoniously "together" for the good of the whole nation.

It is a deplorable condition for any country to find itself in, when there are many leaders each at the same time wanting to control the nation's affairs and each insisting that his methods are the best for the government of the country. Confucius said, "When right principles prevail in the empire, there will be no discussions among the common people." To-day in China there are not only discussions among the people, but much worse, there is very real suffering.

Some of you may perhaps wonder why I, a man no longer young, a man without ambitions to become anybody in China, a man who already has had a very full life, should take upon himself this arduous task of trying to bring peace to this country. My explanation is that I am a man of peace, a man who sincerely loves China, and being a business man, I realize the dangerous position into which China is drifting by the continuance of internecine strife. I am sure you gentlemen will agree with me that the domestic troubles in this country are doing China great harm in the eyes of the foreign nations: there has been a steady loss of prestige, and in relation to certain particular matters, the foreign nations are showing an impatience which would not otherwise exist if China stood united.

My proposed Round Table Conference, I may say, has not only met with widespread approval from public bodies voicing the feelings of the people, but many high officials have already endorsed the plan. In order to show my absolute sincerity in my mission, I have travelled to several centres in the endeavour to obtain the agreement of the big leaders to the Conference. My recent trip to far-off Loyang was with that object. There I had the privilege of taking with Marshal Wu Pei-fu. He, of course, said many kind words in praise of my mission, and accorded me every courtesy and hospitality. But, on the important question of whether he would consent to come to a peace conference with the other big leaders, Wu Pei-fu expressed the opinion that the present time was premature for such a move. He asked to be informed of my further progress in the peace campaign, and said that when the propitious hour arrived he would not fail to signify his readiness to attend the Conference.

In order to make the proposed Round Table Conference a reality and a success, everybody who has an interest in the welfare of China must give his help. It is a national question. No single man or group may hope to achieve enduring success. It is a question in which every one of you gentlemen here present tonight has a personal interest. I appeal to you to work for the unity of China. It is a great and difficult task, and only with the help of all the people behind it, can accomplishment be hoped for.

SOOCHOW BRIDGES UNDER REPAIR

Not Strong Enough for Motor Traffic: A Sign of Christmas Holidays

From Our Own Correspondent.

Soochow, Dec. 12.

Our Soochow community this morning received the third number of our "Soochow News Bulletin," a weekly sheet, to which we now begin to look forward quite eagerly. We all wish for it a long life and great success.

In many of the kitchens of our community there is the delightful fragrance of plum puddings, fruit, cakes, etc., in the making—a sure sign that the Shanghai American School is about to close for the Christmas holidays.

Many of the bridges in the city, and also outside the city, are being either lowered or repaired. Two years ago the bridges inside the city had the stone steps removed for the use of rickshas. It is a pity that while the bridges on the "Horse Road" outside the city are being repaired, that they could not be built stronger, so as to permit the use of motor-cars. For some five years a company has been hoping to run a motor bus line to the station, but this company cannot get the needed permission because of the poorly constructed bridges.

AN AMERICAN'S VIEWS ON CHINA

New York, Nov. 11.

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart, President of Peking University, who returned to New York last week, declared that the situation in China was such that, sooner or later, the big Powers, on account of the increase of banditry, would be bound to interfere in the domestic policy of China, despite the agreement at the Washington Conference to the contrary.

He said that the situation was daily becoming worse and the outlook was extremely discouraging. There is one hope, he believes, if a Chinese Mussolini rises from the political morass, but he thinks that the future of the country lies rather in a moral evolution than in a political revolution. In the meantime, unless action is taken, he points out, the lives of Americans and others who wish to travel in the interior are endangered.—Reuter.

Mr. James Andrew Jeffrey, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, 9 Gracechurch-street, E.C., and Wall-street, New York, left estate of the gross value of £62,000.

REVIEW OF EVENTS IN SZECHUAN

The Fighting Round Chungking and Chengtu: Alternate Successes of Federal and Confederate Forces: Lawlessness and Brigandage Rampant

The following is a review of the situation in Szechuan for the last six months:—

Chêngtu, Nov. 5.

Early in 1923, Gen. Liu I-chiu, the Governor both civil and military of Chêngtu, was all powerful. At his back he had some of the most experienced and most efficient Generals in China, ably led by Gen. Hsiung Keh-wu. Gen. Liu, himself, however, as usual kept in the background when fighting was going forward; in fact, when the victorious forces of Gen. Teng Hsi-hou and his generals, who lately threw in their lot with Gen. Wu Pei-fu and the Northern cause, entered Chêngtu on April 13, he quietly retired and remained undisturbed in the city, while Gen. Hsiung and all his fighting Generals withdrew to the centre of the province, leaving Gen. Teng free to advance south from Chêngtu as his base.

Meanwhile Gen. Yang Sen, having arrived with his Northern forces at Chungking on April 4, planned to attack Gen. Hsiung and his army from the south at the same time as Gen. Teng and Gen. Liu T'sun-hou (Tuchun of Szechuan) engaged him on the north, expecting in this way to crush him. Gen. Hsiung, however, forestalled them with a surprise attack on Gen. Teng, who was forced back on Chêngtu. Later, venturing forth from the city on May 5, Gen. Teng was utterly routed and driven north to Mienchow whence, having joined forces with Gen. Liu T'sun-hou, they were again driven back and scattered to the borders of Shensi.

GEN. YANG SEN'S SET-BACK.

Gen. Yang, thoroughly confident in himself and his men and not in any way dismayed by the rout of his allies, Gen. Teng and Gen. Liu T'sun-hou, marched towards Chêngtu, leaving Chungking on May 17 with 16,000 men. On May 25 he encountered one of Gen. Hsiung's supporters, Gen. Lai Hsin-hui, and after a three days battle was obliged to retreat, and was driven back, contesting every stage with continuous fighting, towards Chungking. Gen. Teng Hsi-hou and Gen. Liu T'sun-hou meanwhile collected ammunition and the former again set out, though the latter seems to take no active part in the fighting.

Gen. Yang Sen having been badly defeated at Luchow, the Confederate (or First Szechuan Army) troops, under Gen. Lai were enabled to occupy Luchow, whereupon Gen. Yang was withdrawn from the main front and sent to regain Luchow, his place being taken by a General who surprised Gen. Lai at Jungchuan and routed him.

Heavy rains interrupted fighting for over a month, during which time Gen. Teng Hsi-hou and Gen. Chen Kuo-tung, who had again attacked in the north and been defeated, travelled south by a circuitous route and joined up with the other Federal (or Second Szechuan Army) forces at Chungking. There the Szechuan generals in the Federal Army made overtures for peace, promising that the Northern forces under Gen. Wu Pei-fu would be withdrawn and suggesting that Gen. Liu Hsiang be made Director of Reorganization. Had these terms been accepted, the Federal cause would have scored a point, since Gen. Liu Hsiang already held a post under Gen. Wu Pei-fu as Director of operations against the brigands.

During negotiations Gen. Yang Sen, who had recaptured Luchow, returned to the main front, and in the first week of August surprised Gen. Lai at Neikiang, but was defeated and driven back on Luchow, where Gen. Lai, pursuing him, was himself routed at the end of the month.

Though there were still rumours of peace, centred round Gen. Liu Hsiang, the Federal forces once more advanced on Chêngtu under Gen. Yang Sen and from the North under Gen. Liu T'sun-hou: but as a result of negotiations between Gen. Yang and Gen. Lai, the former retired to Luchow, leaving the latter free to advance on Chungking.

THE CAPTURE OF CHUNGKING.

However, one of Gen. Yang's Generals in Luchow being also bought over by the Conference, Gen. Yang considered that the compact had been broken, and returned (or was driven to it by the desertion of his own General), to take active part in the defence of Chungking. This city nevertheless fell to the Confederates on October 16 and Gen. Yang, driven out, retired to Wanhien, where he has since built a bridge of boats across the river.

Gen. Liu T'sun-hou again advanced toward Chêngtu from the north and made a desultory attack on Mienchow, but was again repulsed.

Gen. Teng Hsi-hou and Gen. Chen Kuo-tung have disappeared. At the time of writing there is no news of fighting in the Province.

From the time Gen. Teng Hsi-hou was driven out of Chêngtu till June 24, when Gen. Liu I-chiu again resumed office, there was no responsible government in Chêngtu. All the Generals were absent; the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, the Taovin, the various Law Courts and Procuratorial Courts, the Provincial Treasury, had all closed their

doors and refused to receive communications. The cry was as usual for cash to pay staffs. Apart from the Police Commissioner and the two local magistrates, the only remaining official was the understudy of the Civil Governor, a mere nonentity.

UNPRECEDENTED LAWLESSNESS.

On June 4 Gen. Liu I-chiu assumed office (which incidentally he said he had never surrendered!) as Commander-in-Chief and Civil Governor of Szechuan, and never since foreigners first came to Szechuan has the province been in so lawless a state. The North Road is entirely in the hands of brigands, organized into regular stations with definite charges per load per person that they levy from all who wish to pass unmolested. The robber gangs fight pitched battles with the provincial troops, and military escort was for a time (and still is on many roads) denied to foreign travellers, with the excuse that it could not possibly be big enough to be effective, and the brigand chiefs have threatened to cause trouble by kidnapping foreigners. With respect to the murder of Mr. Watt and Mr. Whiteside, Gen. Liu I-chiu is absolutely indifferent, and he refuses to accept any responsibility for foreigners who are obliged to travel. The prestige of foreigners is rapidly lessening.

These robber bands are constantly receiving recruits, for though the pay is not much more than a dollar per month, each is given an eighty-dollar rifle. Then the recruit can desert, sell it, enrol under another man and get another eighty dollars' worth, and so on. In any case a man with a rifle is lord and master of what he likes and the alternative is to be unarmed and to be liable to be robbed and kidnapped himself.

Gen. Hsiung is reported to favour large schemes for the industrial development of the Province after the war. He has had a motor-boat built in Shanghai for passenger traffic between Suifu and Chêngtu.

THE SCARCITY OF COINS.

With respect to the financial situation there is a growing scarcity of copper and silver coins. The coinage in use is debased, and ten and twenty-cash pieces are absolutely withdrawn. Shanghai cheques are at a discount of 20 per cent. There was an issue of two million dollars' worth of paper money, supposed to be checked and stamped by the Chamber of Commerce, but there was not sufficient time, and much of it was sent to pay the soldiers on the various fronts unchecked. The soldiers are now using these notes and the shopkeepers dare not refuse them. More notes have, of course, been issued than were stipulated for.

All the salt revenue, part of which ought to go to serve foreign loans, has for a long time been confiscated by Generals stationed at Tseluching.

OPIUM TAXATION.

Opium is grown all along the banks of the river from Suifu to Chêngtu, and away from the river conditions are just the same, E.C., north of Chêngtu the Magistrates are said to have compelled farmers to grow a certain amount of opium and pay tax for it. Some of the tribes-people refused to obey the order, but were obliged to acquiesce. The crops were ruined by drought, but the full amount was nevertheless demanded by the deputies sent out to collect. The farmers resisted and the deputies sent to Mochow for assistance; the Eighth Mixed Brigade were sent and there was a clash with the Mantze levies, in which the latter were victorious.

TIBETAN AFFAIRS.

When Gen. Ch'en Hsia-ling, the Warden of the Tibetan Marches, was badly defeated in his campaign with Gen. Teng Hsi-hou, which ended on May 5, he withdrew into Yachow with much loss of prestige, and summoned all his forces from Tachienlu and from the Tibetan frontier.

At about this time (May 5) the town of Batang was threatened by the Nankang Lama, and three Chinese companies were wiped out, but the town itself was not attacked. The trouble seems to have been inspired rather to obtain rifles for a local feud between two lamas than to have had any political significance; the Chinese suspect that it is being fanned by the Markham Tege for Tibetan purposes.

The Tibetan Government is rumoured to be taxing all merchandise passing through Janed-ing, on the Yunnan road south of Hamutang, the proceeds being collected by the Governor of Markham.

The Chinese are rumoured to have lost control of the south-west portion of the Batang Province, and Gen. Ch'en Hsia-ling has been sending constant telegrams to Peking appealing for arms and ammunition to cope with any future trouble on the borders, but with no success. He has about 3,000 men, but they seem to be in a state of poverty and discontent.—Reuter.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR GEN. YANG.

Peking, Dec. 10.

Foreign telegrams report that the Northern forces are progressing towards Chungking. General Yang Sen, leading Szechuan, Kueichow, Chihli and Hupch forces, has reached Fengtunsien, while his main force has occupied Chungchow. Meanwhile a Kueichow column, commanded by General Yuan Tsuning, is also marching on Chungking and has reached Tienkang and Linshui, which it has occupied.

The Northern troops are well-supplied with arms and ammunition whereas the defenders are short of both.

While the whereabouts of General Liu Tsung-hou, whom the Szechuanese recently drove to

the Shensi border, are unknown, it is believed that he is leading a third column to Chêngtu.—Reuter.

Peking, Dec. 11.

The Tuchun of Shensi informs the Government that the Shensi troops reinforcing Gen. Yang Sen have arrived at Chienyang in northern Szechuan with the intention of supporting Gen. Yang against Gen. Hsiung Keh-wu. The Tuchun adds that the Shensi troops consist of one division, well armed. This force is in addition to the Shensi troops already with Gen. Yang. Judging by the direction they are following, it appears likely that they are linking up with Gen. Liu Tsung-hou in the latter's march against Chêngtu. In any case they would be too late to participate in the forthcoming attack on Chungking as both columns from Wanhhsien were within 125 kilometres of Chungking two days ago.—Reuter.

THE NORTHERN ATTACK ON CHUNGKING.

Peking, Dec. 12.

The Northern troops reached the outskirts of Chungking on December 8. Groups of defenders stationed at points two and three li from Chungking fell back on the city.

As fighting within the city is expected Japanese marines have landed in order to protect foreigners.—Reuter.

Ichang, Dec. 12.

A United States Naval radio message reports that the Northern forces under Gen. Yang Sen are again attacking Chungking.—Reuter.

TUPAN'S DEAD WIFE

Official Period for Condolences:

The Child Welfare Movement

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hangchow, Dec. 10.

The time for closing the Assembly has arrived but as they have never been able to do any business they propose an extension of 10 or 20 days to give the members another chance of coming up to the scratch!

From the 8th to the 18th instant opportunity is given to friends to express their sorrow and give comfort to the Tupan's (Gen. Lu Yung-hsiang) heart in the death of his wife.

Saturday was cloudy and dull, yesterday was wet and miserable, to-day the sun is shining. The Baptist Church had a cinema show on Saturday night in the Lecture Hall.

Dr. Miller of the Y. M. C. A. is here for a couple of months in the interest of the Child Welfare movement. The National Christian Council of China is holding a "Retreat" for four days in Dr. Main's Sanatorium under the leadership of Dr. Hodgkin, representatives of all the missions being in attendance.

PEKING DAY BY DAY

Chihli-Fengtien Negotiations:

Deadlock in Parliament:

More Bribery

Peking, Dec. 8.

The Minister for Agriculture and Commerce has appointed Gen. Wu Wen-fu, brother of Marshal Wu Pei-fu, as director of the Zoological Gardens.

Marsnal Hsiao Yao-nan, Inspecting General of Hunan and Hupeh, has informed the Government that he has received the official seal from Marshal Wu Pei-fu and that he will assume his new duties on the 10th instant. Gen. Wang Chao-yuan, former Inspecting General of Hunan and Hupeh, who was despatched to Loyang to sound Marshal Wu Pei-fu with regard to the possibility of a reconciliation between the Chihli and Fengtien factions, returned to the capital to-day and reported that Marshal Wu was not averse to a reconciliation.

The funeral of Mr. Chow Tsz-chi, former Minister of Finance, took place this morning. The procession was about a mile in length, and attracted unusual interest. On Thursday and Friday large numbers of Chinese and foreign friends attended at the residence of the deceased to pay their last respects.

The deadlock in the struggle between Cabinet Ministers and Parliament continues. Mr. Wu Ching-lien, the Speaker of the Lower House, is determined not to yield, and despite the activities of the Hsian Ching Tang he will call another meeting of Parliament to vote upon the nomination of Mr. Sun Pao-chi as Premier, even though he realizes that it is unlikely that there will be a quorum present. Mr. Wu is believed to have 250 supporters, but some of them are thought to have accepted bribes from the other side, and it is doubtful if he can count upon so large a following. It is stated that the Government had contemplated addressing another communication to the House urging early action against the nomination of Mr. Sun Pao-chi but in view of the existing circumstances the Government had decided not to send such a communication.

Dec. 11.

It is reported that the ex-Emperor has donated \$1,000 to the relief of the poor in Peking.

A mandate will be issued this evening appointing Gen. Ma Lian-chia concurrently Civil Governor of Anhui and relieving Mr. Lu Tiao-you of that post.

The House of Representatives to-day again failed to vote on the nomination of Mr. Sun Pao-chi. Mr. Wu Ching-lien presided and although a quorum were present members of the Opposition challenged the Speaker's right to preside and finally the House adjourned.—Reuter.

QUIETER TIMES IN SZECHUAN

Attack on Missionaries Repudiated: A Gentleman of the Old School: Growth of Educational Work: German Mark's Influence on Chinese Students: Christian Agitation Against Opium Growing

From Our Own Correspondent.

Junghsien, Sze. Nov. 23.

Since the defeat of Yang Sen and his confederates at Chungking we have been again enjoying communication with the outside world, and our magazine and letter mail, much of it four months old, has been coming through. From the number of missing magazines there must be quite a stack yet at Chungking, waiting someone's convenience, to continue on their journey. As an instance of the delays this provincial fighting causes to our mail the receipt on November 10, of the "North China Herald" of July 21 will suffice.

Some time ago your Peking correspondent wrote of General Ch'eng at Kiating and Liu at Suifu as being "chong li" (neutral) in the recent and still present struggle. General Ch'eng styles himself not as "chong li" but as "tu li" (獨立), that is independent. He has generally been able to maintain that attitude and has certainly kept order within his borders, for we have not heard much of robbers either singly or in bands for a long time. It would seem that those who undertake to make reports upon the state of the country, whether consular, mercantile or other grouping, should be particular as to the section referred to, for, in spite of rumours about the "lawless condition of Szechuan," in at least this county, all foreigners have been able to go about their usual work without fear of hindrance for the past several years.

Wherever there has been military operations there, of course, has been lawlessness but there are large sections of Szechuan where there has been neither for a long time. In spite of the fighting, the summer resorts at Kuanhsien, Omei, Douglas Heights, and Peh-luting were all occupied, and the travellers to and from these places met with no other dangers than are ordinarily incidental to travel in this land. A recent "Chinese Recorder" quotes from an editorial in the "Chinese Christian Advocate," in which a 'prominent evangelist' is quoted as attributing the lack of spiritual uplift in the church life. I presume in West China, "to the unrest and disorder which occurs in West China almost every year, causing the missionaries to flee from their stations when rumour of war is thick in the air, and returning when everything is quieted down. He further stated that this recurring flight for refuge has had a great effect upon the Christian's faith in God, and it is no wonder that the Church members there are spiritually barren."

This kind of fiction is typical of much of the rumours that are prevalent in many circles regarding Szechuan. The writer has been 20 years in this part of West China and knows of *only one time* during these years when the missionaries might be said to have fled from their stations, and that was during the revolution. At no other time has this station, or any other station in at least three missions that I know of, been without its resident missionaries. The conditions are bad enough but not yet as alarming as some reporters would make out.

Our magistrate, who is a gentleman of the old school, has been remarkably energetic for one of his years and has kept a sharp lookout over the affairs of the county. After the death of President Harding, the writer was visited by his delegate who said that they had received word from the President, he did not specify whether it was Li or Sun, who had sent instructions that flags were to be "lowered to half mast" for seven days, and they sought information as to what 'lowered to half mast' might mean. I furnished him with a rough sketch of a flag pole with flag at half mast and next day a bamboo pole was stuck out in front of the yamen gate with a flag hanging from the centre, and the official instructions and my very rough sketch pasted up under it!

PAPER MONEY.

While Chengtu and other "lawless" districts have been much bothered by the recently issued paper money almost none has appeared here. Official notices were posted that it was to be used and exchanged at the rate of \$1.05 silver for each paper dollar. A passing soldier presented one at a shop and being unable to cash it appealed to the magistrate, who said, 'I do not want your money, here are a couple of strings of cash, take them and go on your way.' He thus avoided a decision in the matter. We are sorry to hear that he is to be removed. Changes have also taken place in our missionary community in the removal of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Veals to Luchow where Mr. Veals will take on educational work and in the coming back of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Bell and son. Mr. Bell takes on the school work of which he formerly had charge.

The mission educational work has been enlarged this autumn by the starting of middle school work. The first class, of which more than half graduated from the mission higher primary last spring, numbers 25. The

government middle school is crowded as usual. I have heard that those in charge of building the new one have used up all the funds in buying material and so are unable to proceed with the building. A short time ago, a gentleman in the city refused to receive a birthday present from a couple of the government middle school teachers, at which action the rest took offence, and they staged a strike. The students demanded of the principal that they must graduate at the end of the year and he appealed to the magistrate. After some days of considerable turmoil the long suffering magistrate acknowledged that he had been wrong in some action he took and provided a feast of two tables and the whole matter was considered settled.

A short while ago a local gentleman came looking for a Shanghai cheque for \$3,000.00. Though he did not so state the subsequent conversation indicated that his purpose was probably to buy marks, which were so cheap and it was inconceivable to him that a nation might default on its currency. About the same time some students left here for Peking as the first stage of their journey to Germany, the reason being given that marks were so low that their money would enable them to obtain a good education in Germany for comparatively little silver. So it is evident that there is some sort of propaganda abroad in the land.

THE OPIUM EVIL.

The Szechuan military leaders have done a little better than Ts'ao K'un in rewarding their escorts. It is reported that several of them have presented their soldiers with a handkerchief or a face towel in recognition of their valuable services. One leader went so far as giving each of his men 30 cents.

Some of the Christian people here have become much exercised over the planting of opium in the county and are making plans to agitate against it. They have prepared several tracts, one to the user and one to the farmer, which they propose to scatter broadcast. It is reported that as much as a *tan*, that is ten bushels of seed, have been sold. The magistrate has frequently protested to village elders against the planting, for this county has been free from the plant for many years. Liu I-ch'au recently issued a proclamation against planting the poppy in Szechuan, and with this encouragement, the local magistrate has sent out prohibitory notices throughout the county. It is reported that many farmers have planted the poppy between the rows of wheat or beans, so that if they have to uproot the poppy they will still have some crop from the land. The wheat and beans will also serve to conceal the poppy for a time.

Small cash have almost disappeared, ten cash coppers are very scarce and two hundred cash

coppers much more abundant than formerly. Twenty cent pieces are generally used at five to the dollar. The vast majority are of Kuantung mintage and there are many counterfeits, some of copper, silver plated, which pass easily until the plating wears off. The dollar exchanges for 3,000 cash with rice at 4,200 per ton.

ICHANG'S REVENUE FROM OPIUM

Tax Office Busily Engaged Collecting Fees: The Warfare in Szechuan

Ichang, Dec. 1.

It is stated that the opium tax office is now very busy and that something like \$10,000 to \$15,000 is being drawn every day. It requires almost this sum to bring the revenue up to the amount that was expected to be raised yearly. Another office has now opened and an interesting proclamation has been issued, stating that orders have been received from the Military and Civil Governors of the Province to the effect that the Police and the Magistrate should jointly establish "The Opium Prohibition Investigation Office." As a matter of fact, this office will sell licences to anyone for the transport of opium within the bounds of the Ichang jurisdiction for 12 cents an ounce. Reuter's correspondent saw a receipt for this tax, which stated that the bearer had 80 oz. of Szechuan "goods," for which he had paid the tax of \$9.60, and he was at liberty to have these "goods" transported to any place within the borders of the district governed by Ichang without official interference.

A WARNING TO EVIL-DOERS!

A man was executed here a few weeks ago and his head afterwards exposed to the public as a warning to evil-doers. The official who ordered the execution, the military man in charge of the "Joint Army Office for General Control," stated that the man had been convicted of robbery and had misrepresented himself to be a soldier, as he was dressed in soldier's uniform, to carry out his ill-deeds. Another story, unofficial but more likely, is that he was really a soldier and his offence was that he had gone on board a passenger steam launch which plies between here and Shasi, and tried to steal opium which had paid the duty, thus interfering with the business of the "Joint Army Office."

BITTER FIGHTING IN PROSPECT.

Very little news is available here with regard to the fighting in Szechuan. It appears, however, that the armies have now left the river banks. The Szechuanese are reported to have assembled very large forces and there seems to be a prospect of some very bitter fighting. Meanwhile Marshal Wu Pei-fu's steamer

is busy carrying ammunition up to Wanhien for the use of the Northern expedition. Most of it is brought up by steamer from Hankow and one vessel recently brought some 200,000 rounds from Hanyang Arsenal.

LOW WATER IN THE GORGES.

The larger steamers have all made their last trip to the Gorges, and the Robert Dollar II left here for Shanghai yesterday. The Shu-hun also made a trip when the water was becoming very low, but now with a water mark of 5 ft. 6 in. it is not likely that even she will attempt another run. There are several small winter ships on the run, and they are doing very well, as there are passengers as well as freight to transport. There are already seven ships here for the winter service and more which are being built at Shanghai are expected to arrive shortly.—Reuter.

HANDKERCHIEFS FOR GOOD SOLDIERS

Quaint Mark of Appreciation at Chengtu: Women and the Constitution

From Our Own Correspondent

Chengtu, Sze., Nov. 14.

The chief item of interest in foreign circles recently has been the celebration of Armistice Day. On Saturday morning, the 10th, a special Memorial Service was held in the Roman Catholic Cathedral by the Bishop. The musical service was very fine and impressive. Members of the Diplomatic Body turned out in full uniform as did the members of the Allied Military Service Association. This Association of men and women who served overseas during the war remembered the day of peace by convening informally at a picnic lunch in the famous Chin Yang Kong temple of Er Hsien An. On Sunday morning, the 11th, Divine Service was held at H.B.M. Consulate-General at 10.30 when the Rt. Rev. Bishop Mewl, late of Canada, was the special preacher. Consul-General Combe had the Consulate gracefully decorated with the Allied flags. His brother consuls were present in uniform as also were members of the Allied Military Service Association. The Memorial service was quiet and effective. Promptly at 11 o'clock the Bishop called the large congregation to their feet to observe the two minutes silence in commemoration of the Great Peace and the fallen heroes. Then again in the afternoon at 3.30 the Bishop conducted a Thanksgiving Memorial service in the Sutherland Memorial (Canadian Methodist) Church under the auspices of the Allied Military Service Association when a large audience gathered and appreciated the Bishop's eloquent address.

SOME STRANGE REWARDS.

Hsiong Keh-wu is delaying his coming out as Tuchun for the present until he determines how much of a threat Liu Tsen-hou will make. Liu has at last entered the ring and is reported to be in charge of Mienchow. It is not expected that Liu after sitting on the fence through the year of civil war will get much of a following at this date. Both Liu I-chiu and Hsiong Keh-wu are reported to be leaving for Chungking shortly to consolidate the political position. Since the new threats of Wu Pei-fu to reinvest Chungking, it is thought here that the doughty generals may tarry in the Capital a while longer. The local press have been retailing the Army Orders lately and detailing the fulsome praise bestowed upon the victorious troops for defeating Yang Sen. Some generals are distributing wash cloths and tooth brushes to their troops as a mark of their appreciation of their valiant services. Hsiong Keh-wu is reported to be presenting handkerchiefs to all his troops with eight characters inscribed reminding them of their meritorious conduct for their country. It has often been suggested that a handkerchief campaign might be a good idea in China. It remains to be seen now whether the brave troops will be able to make proper use of the handkerchiefs. We hope so, and trust that the wholesome habit may spread to all walks of life in West China. The press declares that Liu I-chiu has appointed Lieut.-General Li Feng-chiu to go at once to Mienchow to examine carefully into the Watt-Whiteside murder case. It looks at last as if the officials were making some headway owing to the stinging rebukes they have received from H.B.M. Consul-General Combe.

The women have succeeded lately in stirring up a hornet's nest. Some women suffragettes entered the Council chamber where the grave fathers of Confederation were engaged in writing the New Constitution and claimed the right to have a share in the writing. One Chen Ren-min, more men, picked up a stool and attacked the women, seriously wounding two. Now the girls' schools are out on a sympathy strike.

THE social world has been stirred by the announcement that Baron Rolf Cederstrom, the former husband of Mme. Patti, the famous singer, who died four years ago has become engaged to Lady Esme Gordon-Lennox. Baron Cederstrom, who is 53, was Mme. Patti's third husband. Before his marriage to her at Brecon in 1899 he had been for some time a director of a Swedish gymnastic institute in London. He belongs to an old Swedish family that was ennobled in 1684. Lady Esme Gordon has been previously married and was granted a divorce last May.

THE CIVIL WARFARE IN KUANGTUNG

A Resume of Events: Railway Traffic and Other Business Losses:

The Heavy Levies of War: Tax on Real Estate:

Yunnan Troops' Control of Province

Canton, Nov. 29.

The General Headquarters of Dr. Sun Yat-sen has officially announced the recapture of Sheklung and the regaining of control of the section of Canton-Kowloon Railway from this city to Sheklung. Since the war the Canton-Kowloon Railway has lost more than \$300,000 in traffic receipts alone, apart from the destruction of property. The Sun forces are now quartered along the railway with their maximum strength still concentrated at Shabo, just outside Canton City.

The Yunnanese Army occupying Canton is demanding direct control of the silk likin station from the Canton Bureau of Finance. The syndicate to which the collection of this likin has been farmed out has already advanced more than \$300,000 towards the present war on condition that its administration shall not be interfered with until the loan is settled and is protesting against military control.

From December 1, a war tax of 20 per cent. on freight and 30 per cent. on passenger charges will be imposed on the Canton-Hankow Railway for the sole support of the Yunnanese and the Hunanese mercenary troops in Kuangtung. The special tax will be abolished after three months, according to the Generalissimo.

PROPERTY TAXES.

A large sum is expected by Dr. Sun from a special war assessment of three per cent. on Canton real estate. Owners paying the tax in the next ten days will be free of the inquisition annoyance. Since the return of Dr. Sun Yat-sen to Canton last February many private landowners have been dispossessed on the ground that their buildings or lands were once property of the government or a public temple. Property rights of individuals in Canton have been suspended for the time being and landlords nowadays have to turn over the rent from their tenants to the military authorities and may not admit a new tenant without a special permit from the police headquarters.

DESERTIONS FROM DR. SUN.

Nov. 30.

The departure of Gen. Hsu Chung-chi, Dr. Sun Yat-sen's right hand man in military affairs, for Shanghai several days ago, followed by Mr. Liao Chung-hoi, Civil Governor of Kuangtung, on November 28, was caused by the failure of the elder faction of the Kuomintang to gain a hand in Canton local politics. The younger faction of the Kuomintang, led by Mr. Sun Fo, son of Dr. Sun.

has so far held a strong position in local affairs. It was through Mr. Sun Fo that Dr. Sun had succeeded in carrying out his confiscation measure, which resulted in raising several million dollars from the city alone for war funds. While Dr. Sun has probably sacrificed his past reputation and future influence through this measure, all benefit from the proceeds of the sale of government lands and confiscated property has gone into the hands of the Yunnanese and other mercenary troops imported into Canton in order to replace the Kuomintang in power here.

MERCENARY TROOPS.

So far the Kuomintang administrations in Canton City and Kuangtung Province have failed in all constructive measures attempted, their time and energy having gone to the raising of funds for the support of mercenary troops who later turned against their employers under one pretext or another. The Yunnanese troops, with their financial bureaux in the West River and North River districts along the railway, collecting taxes properly belonging to the civil administration, are ignoring the civil authorities. When they forced Dr. Sun last week to appoint Gen. Yang Hsi-min of the Yunnanese Army Commander-in-Chief of the allied Kuangtung, Kuangsi and Yunnan troops in Kuangtung, they obtained practically complete control of the province.

Gen. Hsu Chung-chai, a Cantonese and a corps commander when Yang was but a brigadier, indignant at having to take orders from one who met reverses like he did a fortnight ago on the Eastern front, left Canton to reorganize the Kuomintang Party in Shanghai without the younger set, leaving Dr. Sun dependent on his mercenary troops to maintain his hold on Canton.

FAILURE OF THE KUOMINTANG.

The general impression is that the failure of the Kuomintang in Canton is due to the inability of Dr. Sun to understand men and the lack of experience of the younger men who have obtained power, rejecting the advice of the older and original leaders of the party.

During the absence of Governor Liao Chung-hoi of Kuangtung, the Acting Secretary of State, Chen Shih-jen, will officiate in the office of governor.

Mr. Chau Lu, the Commissioner of Finance, has resigned and has been appointed President of the Kuangtung Teachers College, relieving Mr. Kin Tsang-ching.

On the departure of Governor Liao, the following other ap-

pointments were also made:—Mr. Chen Yung as the Chief Justice of the Kuangtung Provincial High Court; Mr. Mei Kuang-pui as Commissioner of Kuangtung Finance, and Mr. C. Y. Chau Kwi-woon, as Chief of Canton Municipal Department of Finance.

Mr. Ng Yu-hong, the Salt Commissioner, has resigned but Dr. Sun has not yet appointed his successor.—Reuter.

YUNNANESE WELL ARMED.

Peking, Dec. 6.

From well-informed foreign sources at Canton interesting details are forthcoming of the state of affairs in that city during the recent crisis when General Chen Chiung-ming seemed about to take possession of the city and drive the remnants of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's party out of Kuangtung. It appears that the nearest point to the city reached by the advance guards of General Chen Chiung-ming's forces was three miles. This was on November 18. By November 24 they had withdrawn to about 15 to 20 miles from Canton.

It will be remembered that recently Dr. Sun Yat-sen appointed the Yunnanese General Yang Hsi-min to the supreme command of all forces. Under his immediate command were 15,000 to 20,000 Yunnanese. Other provincial forces are: 5,000 Cantonese, 3,000 Kuangsi troops, 2,000 Honanese, and about 8,000 Hunanese under General Tan Yen-kai. At the outside this gives a total of 38,000 which is regarded as an overestimate.

A large proportion of these troops are worthless. The Cantonese are said to be unable to withstand fire, and their breaking away is believed to have been responsible for General Chen Chiung-ming's capture of Sheklung. They could only be induced to return to the front when the Yunnanese were brought up in their rear.

While most of the Yunnanese are well armed most of the other forces are poorly equipped, some being unarmed.

The Kowloon-Canton Railway has been damaged during the recent operations, rails being torn up.

General Chen Chiung-ming is believed to be well equipped.

Dr. Sun is said to have alienated the sympathy and support of the business men, and his chances of success appear small, but his indomitable courage may enable him to pull through.—Reuter.

THE appointment of Mr. L. L. Newmarch, M.I.C.E., general manager and engineer-in-Chief of the Peking-Mukden Railway, to supervise the erection of the new Chintan bridge in Tientsin City, has just been confirmed.

MARTIAL law has been proclaimed in Nanking. The city gates are closed at sundown, a curfew is in force and the baggage of all persons entering the provincial capital is searched by the military police.

FIVE WEEKS IN THE HANDS OF THE BRIGANDS

**Sihwa Looted: A Memorable Breakfast: Yuan Shih-kai's Home
Plundered: Negotiations that Failed: Robber Chief's Wife
Rebuked: How the Rescue was Efforted**

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kaifeng, Ho., Dec. 3.

Miss Darroch and Miss Sharp, of the China Inland Mission who were taken from Sihwa, Honan, by a brigand band under the Shantung leader, Fan Ming Hsin, and who were in their custody for five weeks, tell the following story.

"We had gone to bed at the usual time on Saturday night, September 22, anticipating only the ordinary duties of the morning. About five o'clock on Sunday morning we were awakened by rifle fire which we thought at first were fire-crackers. Our women soon undeceived us, however, for they besought us to hurry and dress in warm clothing and plenty of it for brigands had surprised the town and were even then not far from the Mission compound.

"It was as they reported. The Shantung band which had come over from Anhui and had been ravaging the intervening country had come as far as Sihwa and had caught the Magistrate napping. The city guard was insufficient but some of the soldiers fought well until either their rifles failed them or they themselves were wounded or killed. Once the entrance to the city was gained the robbers proceeded to loot to their heart's content. The shots we thought were crackers were the bullets of their guns shooting over our home and the neighbouring houses.

"We hastened to comply with the advice of our women and put on a brave front assuring the women that they would not hurt us. To engage the servant's attention and to assist towards the feeling of bravery we asked them to prepare our breakfast though we did not feel like eating. We forced ourselves to take food and urged the servants to do so to. Thus it was that when the first of the many bands that beset the house through the day entered the rear gate of the compound, we were in the dining-room.

"As they entered the courtyard we could hear them exclaiming that the house was empty. They continued their investigation and we maintained silence till they found us in the dining-room seated at the meal as if it was the most ordinary thing in the world to be visited by bandits for breakfast. Immediately their guns went to their shoulders and they demanded our guns. Being assured that we had no fire arms they proceeded to a systematic search of the house for any valuables we might have. All drawers in the dining-room-cupboard were pulled out by some of the

men; while others went upstairs and hauled over everything there, throwing what they did not want in heaps on the floor.

"The second in command of the brigand army, a man called Chang, had been in touch with Christianity in Suchow, Kiangsu, and as he was in charge of the first band that entered our place, he comforted us by assuring us that they would protect the *Fuh-in-t'any* (Gospel Hall), and that we had nothing to fear in a personal way. Notwithstanding this assurance he took care to leave a guard over us when he temporarily left the premises—not to protect us but to prevent our escape. During the day we had several talks with Chang and with others of the band about the Gospel message and though they assented to the claims of Christ they declared that it was impossible at present to give up their way of life.

"It was still early in the morning, and all day until after five o'clock we were troubled by numerous bands each intent on getting loot."

One of the brigands pointed his revolver at Miss Darroch and threatened to shoot her if she did not produce ten thousand dollars; she assured him that if that was his final word he would have to shoot as she had no money to give him.

One of the bandit's captives had taken an eiderdown belonging to one of the ladies and was making a saddle of it; she seeing this, and not knowing that he was acting at the bidding of a bandit remonstrated with him, whereupon the bandit fired his gun hitting the house and maintained a threatening attitude. Fearing that harm would come to the ladies one of the Chinese Christians who was present calmed him by assuring him that the foreigner did not understand the etiquette of the situation, and urged him to take the eiderdown away for his horse or any other use he might have for it.

Still another band came along in the afternoon wanting guns, watches and money. They were assured that as many of their companions had been in the house before them there was little likelihood of anything of value being left. "Is there anything upstairs," asked one fellow. "Hardly likely after your friends have been satisfied," said the ladies. He went up to see and came down holding up an umbrella and with an air of the utmost good fellowship exclaimed that he had salvaged something at least. By these

repeated visitations the house was cleared of anything of any value that appeared at all attractive to the brigands.

The ladies had heard several times through the day that it was the intention of the brigands to carry off the younger lady when they left in the evening. When they were at last ready to depart both ladies were ordered to get ready to accompany them; they vigorously protested against this indignity to their persons and liberty and flatly refused to go. However they reconsidered this when one of them received a sharp rap over the shoulder with a stick.

HOUSED WITH AN IDIOT.

They did not proceed very far that night. After they had walked about two miles the ladies were put in a cart and the whole company travelled about six miles to the village of Fengying where a halt was called. That was a terrible night for them; they had heard the question, "where will we put the foreign ladies?" and had heard the answer, "put them with the idiot." To quote from the words of one of the captive ladies, "We were put into a very filthy bed that was literally alive with vermin and were disturbed all night by the night by the idiot who was much disgruntled that we should be occupying his bed. All through the night he kept leering and laughing at us in the light of a candle. We asked him to go away but he would advance toward the bed, look at us, laugh wildly and jump, all the while munching pears which were stored in the room. As the lady on the outside of the bed fell into a doze she was startled by the clammy hand of the idiot touching her. Finally a brigand got him out but he returned again in the course of an hour."

There was a great sameness about the immediately succeeding days, the brigands went slowly East, looting as they went. Though the ladies did not realize it at that time, they were in the Chenchowfu area for several days. Movements were made in the night when the many bands would continue their pillaging of the villages passed bringing the loot to Fan's headquarters. In Dayuchin, the village of Yuan Shih-kai's relatives, the brigands pillaged much of the goods of the Yuan home. They were forced to flee from this village on account of an attack by the soldiers. In the middle of the night they were called out of bed and the ladies were put in the Yuan cart which was commandeered and the march started moving off without lights, creeping through the night, no one allowed to utter a word. During the night they passed within one mile of a city with lights along the wall which showed they were on the alert for a brigand raid. They crept quietly and passed this city without a shot being fired on either side.

The city was probably Chenchowfu.

After this they came one day near a pond spanned by a narrow bridge; the road rose abruptly and turned sharply over this bridge which was unprotected by any railing. The travelling was dangerous and to add to the difficulties a clumsy farm sledge bearing wounded brigands was on the incline blocking the road right in front of the ladies' cart. The very difficult ascent and the heavily burdened sledge made it almost impossible for the animals to haul their burden up. Just at this most critical time with the sledge ahead and the pond on either side of the ascending road firing began from an ambushed party of militia. Bullets were flying over the company and horses and men were wildly trying to get past this sledge. The cart bearing the ladies was on the worst part of the road at this time; the animals were plunging and the guards were doing their utmost to support the cart from overturning into the water. Miss Sharp who was behind in the cart said to Miss Darroch in front, "Why do you not jump out?" and received the reply, "There is no place to jump but into the water. Fan had his two wives along with the him on this march and they were in the cart just behind the one that bore the ladies. Their animals became unmanageable and their escort was unable to support the cart. Mrs. Fan was pitched into the pond and despite the extreme danger in which they were she used the unfailing weapon of a Chinese woman in giving the escort a direct piece of her mind. This incident happened toward the first week of the ladies' captivity.

On the second Sunday, that is eight days after the raid at Sihwa, they came to a large market town which resisted the entry of the band. Severe fighting followed and when the gates were forced open dead bodies lay strewn all around. That night the ladies were quartered in a certain house and Fan was gallant enough to allot them the good bedding taken from the Yuan home. In the middle of the night they were awakened by the entry of a burly ruffian who wanted to know if they were the owners of the house and if there were any guns to be had. It was one of the brigands who was bent on loot and did not know his leaders disposition of the chief captives. The ladies were very indignant at this intrusion and roundly upbraided their guard for his negligence at this permitting it. He sleepily answered that the man was "one of theirs" and that it did not matter anyway.

ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE.

It was at this time and place that Mr. Wang, one of the Sihwa Christians, came as an envoy of the Sihwa magistrate with an

offer to Fan to cease his marauding and to negotiate for the release of the ladies. The captive ladies knew that some important parleys were going on but as Fan kept them isolated from all news of the world around they did not know the boastings that General Tien was sending to Kaifeng that he had the brigands surrounded, and that his orders were to fight and not to negotiate. At that time word came to Kaifeng that the robbers could not possibly escape and that it was only a matter of a few days till the Misses Darroch and Sharp should be released.

So far was Fan from being surrounded that he calmly took advantage of a lull in the operations of his enemies to escape. Fan had commissioned Mr. Wang to make an offer to the soldiers, not to fight, but contrary to his word he made away to Fengtai. Gen. Tien was very angry at this breach of faith on Fan's part and followed up, forcing Fan to fight his way out of Fengtai, and flee toward Anhui.

Fan soon found it was impossible to cross the Anhui border so he set his march for the West. News came from Hsuehchang shortly after Fan had crossed the railway of the near escape the Peking-Hankow express had had from the bandits near that city. We now know that the train had been warned that the brigands would be at that point and would no doubt make an attempt on the train. It was then that the plan of sending an armoured train with machine guns was put into effect; the armoured train did some deadly work, but we fear the slaughter that ensued was among the innocent and suffering prisoners rather than among the brigands themselves.

At this time Fan's following of brigand-soldiers and prisoners made a procession some three miles long. There was a multitude of horses and some few carts; slower animals had been from time to time carried off but as they were too slow they were abandoned. There were many men wheeling barrows with the loot and the great company of the prisoners walked. The ladies declare that during the fighting they crossed and recrossed the railway three times. At the river Sha near Hsuehchang there was another fight. Throughout the five weeks in which the ladies were in the hands of the brigands they were in the midst of 15 battles, nor were they merely passing shots, and then an escape, but in each engagement there were many killed and many more severely wounded. Mrs. Fan got down in the cart and covered herself with the bedding as she was in mortal terror of being hit. Up till this time Mrs. Fan rode in their cart as one of the guards. Hitherto the brigands had not burned any villages but now aggravated by the attack of the local militia they set fire to several villages. Mrs. Fan see-

ing this expressed her sympathy for the poor villagers who were made homeless. The ladies were indignant at these remarks and told her that her words and actions did not agree. They asked her to remember that there was a God above their head who would punish them for their deeds. These words of rebuke so displeased her that she left the cart and never returned.

During the third week of their captivity they had passed Hsianghsien and were in the Yehhsien district. On October 10 the brigand army was again attacked. One of the ladies continuing the story said, "We were still in the Yuan family cart; when we first acquired this cart and its animals the horses were plump and good looking; day by day we saw these fine horses getting poorer and thinner; on this particular day when we were attacked the horses were forced into a gallop with the guard supporting the cart on either side. Five times during this mad gallop the cart upset and four times it was righted, and the horses beaten into a careering course in a mad race away from the danger that threatened. The fifth time that the cart went over, the poor animals were entangled in the harness and kicked and tumbled without power to right themselves. We in the cart were tangled up in the bedding and loot which had been put in with us. The brigand guard pulled us out without any too great tenderness or ceremony and said, 'Run, foreign ladies, run.' Some distance ahead another cart was requisitioned for our conveyance which was also upset and wrecked as we continued our mad flight ahead. We were then compelled to go forward by foot and coming soon to a river we were forced to wade through it. You can imagine how we looked and felt when we reached the other side; there Fan, the leader, awaited us and being each thrown on a horse in accordance with his orders we were still urged ahead at a speed which for us who had never been on horses before was killing.

A SEVERE REVERSE.

"In this engagement we lost all the little comforts that we had, food, clothing, coverlets all went. This fight was a very severe blow to Fan likewise for most of his loot was lost and hundreds of his prisoners escaped. To lose prisoners meant to lose the prospect of the ransom money he was asking for them."

This was the place where Mr. Joyce who was seeking to rescue the ladies says, "If the regular soldiers had given any support to the local militia, the brigands could have been cleaned up and the ladies rescued, two weeks before their release was effected.

"At this time we were for the first time separated. Miss Sharp in the confusion was taken over by the third division, while Miss Darroch remained with the

second. Our clothing was torn and dragged with the several mishaps to the carts, and by the wetting in the river. Miss Darroch was proceeding at this time on foot and was being pushed and jostled by the rabble and by donkeys. Her foot was injured by one of the donkeys planting his hoof on it and at one point she was perilously near being pushed into the stream. It was at this point that Ch'en, one of the under-command, who had been for three years in schools in Japan came up and stared in amazement to see the plight she was in. He began to abuse the common crowd for permitting her to receive such treatment but no one would supply a mount, so he himself gave her his donkey."

To accomodate what remained of Fan's following his plan was to send his advance guards ahead to frighten the people by firing. At the sound of the guns the people scampered away as fast as they could; the guards permitted them to go—at least all who were useless to them, only retaining those they wanted, as prisoners ought to assist in serving them. In every village some elderly women would be kept to cook food and attend them while all the others in the village were permitted to go to leave room for the bandits. Usually the ladies were given a bowl of the very coarsest food, millet or sweet potatoes prepared without seasoning and served in a way that took away any appetite that they might have had.

To quote the ladies' own words, "By evening we were restored to each other's company again. Despite the very hard day we had had and the excitement of our danger and escape from the soldiers no food was procurable that night nor was there any bed for us. We had to make the best of a bed and bedding of coarse millet stalks on an earthen floor. This afforded little protection against the cold atmosphere of the mountains we had now reached.

A HARD EXPERIENCE.

"On the morning of October 11 we left this village but not in peace and quietness; the brigands were again attacked by soldiers and so the march was begun under fire." The brigands lacked sufficient ammunition to put up much of a fight. Miss Darroch says, "Never having ridden a horse in my life it was indeed a very hard part of my experience that I was now called upon to undergo. It would have been bad enough on the level but now we were on the mountains and the horses were compelled to descend break-neck declivities I knew there was nothing for it but to hold my breath and cling to the horse." On this particular day as we were climbing an especially steep place the saddle girths broke and down I went with the saddle and loot on top of me. I was stunned by the fall and being buried under the impediments was

unable to move. We were so closely followed by the militia that our guards were in terror of being taken which would have meant their death. They were also in terror of leaving us behind as we were their most precious booty so I was urged to get up and run, run, run. I could not disentangle myself and yet they continued to call run, run, run. At last in desperation I answered, if you will help me up I will run but I cannot move till you do."

Three or four days later there was a great gathering of others with Fan and his officers. Many times we heard the name of Lao Yang-jen and we wondered if by any chance Fan was going to amalgamate with him and his followers. We knew nothing of Lao Yang-jen's return to banditry: we only knew that the meeting was of very great import as that day they forgot our food entirely. We did not know how the discussion ended but that night about 300 new brigands were added to the old group. These came to us and assured us that they were Sihwa men and that their hearts were very sad to see us in that plight; they were distinctly riff-raff and if they were Sihwa men they were undoubtedly very disreputable brigands. During the night candles were flashed in our faces as robbers from other bands came in to gaze upon us. We were much annoyed that this should be permitted; and throughout our time in their hands we had no privacy.

AN INEFFECTIVE CONFERENCE.

On different occasions the captives had had hopes of being freed by negotiation. When they were in the cave country an official deputy, Mr. Wu, who came with authority to negotiate their liberation, saw them and assured them that they would be freed in less than three days' time? That very night they were awakened in the middle of the night and moved one mile farther into the mountains; it was so dark and the way so dangerous that the men who were leading them had to stop frequently and light matches to see their way over some dangerous bit of road. The next day they were moved some 15 miles farther away.

The ladies afterwards learned from Mr. Joyce's letters that he had seen Fan in conference and made known the Tuli's terms to him. Fan had told Mr. Joyce that they were not in his immediate vicinity but that they were in a village many miles away. This was not true for they were never far away from Fan. He was terribly suspicious and after these various attempts to negotiate for their liberation he would have their hiding place changed to some more inaccessible spot.

Again to quote from one of the ladies, "Every move took us into more rugged and more beautiful bits of mountain; the rocks were simply wonderful and under other circumstances we should have thoroughly enjoyed the scen-

ery. As it was, however, each new move was attended with greater danger for us physically.

"On the night of October 21 as we were making our way over some very difficult stretches of mountain we were again attacked. The night was not dark for it was nearly full moon. Crack! crack! went the guns and the bullets whistled overhead. The member of the guard who was leading Miss Sharp's horse urged the poor beast down the steep defile. I kept slipping further and further towards its neck and at last went over in front of the animal. The back of my head was injured and troubled me for some time. The horse was above me and the place was very steep but very much to my surprise he did not step on me. Some distance further on Fan came up and inquired about my sorry looking plight. When he heard that there had been fighting he was surprised for in the front he was not aware of what had taken place. When the word had gone around the immediate group that there had been fighting, the first question asked was 'Were the foreign ladies saved?' This was not solicitude for our welfare but fear that we might have been taken out of their hands. On this occasion we lost all the things that we had received from friends since October 9.

"On the Thursday after the ineffective conference with Mr. Joyce which took place about 15 miles south of Lushan, fighting began again. Fan had promised Mr. Joyce that no harm would come to us from them and that if we were hurt it would be from the bullets of the soldiers. Thus when Wu Pei-fu's men became more insistent in their attacks, Fan got us to write a letter to tell the soldiers that we were in the district that was being so heavily bombarded. Fan's idea was that for fear of injuring us the firing might be stopped. We wrote in English that we were indeed in that part but so far from stopping the attack it was continued with a greater fury. We heard afterwards that Wu had commanded his men not to return without us and not to slacken fire, letter or no letter. Our letter to them though written in English which they could not read only assured them that it was really Fan Ming-hsin that they were against and caused them to redouble their efforts to rescue us.

"When this attack intensified the brigands were very bitter against Mr. Joyce and the envoy, Mr. Wu. Fan himself declared that Mr. Joyce was friendly and that he had assured him that, unless the terms offered by the Tuli were accepted, he, Mr. Joyce, could not prevent attack upon them. This rather allayed the feelings among the leaders against Mr. Joyce but the common men still thought that they had been betrayed by the envoys. Fan put a price on the head of Mr. Wu which, while

futile, salved the feelings of the men.

"It was at Chikanchien that Mr. Joyce had had the conference with Fan and after that we had been moved very rapidly 17 miles to the S. W. over hill and dale. Fighting went on all day on Thursday and continued far into the night; at midnight we were called up and ordered to prepare for a journey; we slipped out of the encampment without a sound and travelled all through the rest of the night, when we came to the bank of a wide river. This was one of the surprises of Fan's campaign for on either side of the river were Wu's soldiers. Firing began immediately. The horse that Miss Sharp was riding sprang into the river and made for the other side; the poor beast went down twice and she was unhorsed. She waded to the other side, losing her shoes in the sand, weary to death and dazed from the ride through the night and the wetting just received. With sodden draggled clothing, we were forced again into flight."

Miss Darroch says:—"The next day was a very dreadful day for us and remains now like a frightful night-mare. We walked for some time when I was put on a horse; a very high hill in the foreground was our objective. The brigands promised that we should rest when we got to the top of it. We got to the top in time but the brigands were terrorized as the soldiers were following hard after them. Another hill was in front of us. I had just fallen off the horse for the second time during the flight and I blankly refused to climb any more hills. There was one member of the guard whom we termed the bully because he was such a disagreeable fellow, always levelling threats at everyone to get his own way. When I refused to move to the descent of the one hill and the ascent of the farther one this fellow brought his gun to his shoulder and said, 'If you do not immediately go, I will shoot you.' Pushing aside the two men who were dragging me up and down, I said, 'Now shoot for I am going to die of weariness and I may as well have it over.' Not only was I weary to death from the marching over the hills but we had not had food or water all day. When the fellow saw my lack of fear at his threats, he sheepishly lowered his gun and the group began to plead with me if I would but go to the top of the farther hill, they would *kowtow* or bump their heads on the ground to me.

"Thus pleaded with, I was put on another horse and without water though panting for it, we started again to scramble down the other side of the hill that we had just ascended. Coming to a sheer descent where the horse could not keep his feet but went sliding down, and being faint from lack of food and water, I fell from the horse for the third time. On this occasion I fainted. When I came to, there was

one of the guard rubbing my chest and the thought immediately passed through my mind that they found my watch and spectacles at last for all through the captivity I retained them on the inside of my clothing. But in his agitation at the thought that I might be dead he thought only of restoring me and had not taken time to wonder what the hard substance in my clothing might be.

FAST TRAVELLING.

"Restored to consciousness again, we were up and away as fast as we could go with the soldiers hard pressing us and not far behind. At the bottom of this hill we came upon a small stream but they were unwilling to stop as the soldiers were so close. I said that they must give me as much water as I wanted as I was faint and thirsty, otherwise I would dismount and not go on at all. When they saw I was determined they consented, in spite of the fact that the bullets were flying around us. Much refreshed we proceeded on our way, one of the men here asserting that for his sins he was eating this bitterness and like the friends of Job suggested that I must be suffering for the same reason.

"All through the day of October 26, Miss Sharp and I were separated for the second time since we left Sihwa. This caused me some very real anxiety." Miss Sharp also telling of this day's experience said, "Indeed, the day was a very terrible one for us both. After getting through the stream at daybreak, I was forced to go on through all the agony of the day's march or rather flight on foot and without shoes. There were men in the party who were mounted but not one of them would give me his horse: on, on, ever on, with my feet full of thorns the brigands never let me get behind but urged and pushed and pulled me on with them. Towards night Chen, the ex-Japanese student, caught up with us and forced one of the mounted brigands to give me his horse. This he did very sullenly and for the rest of the day, I was mounted.

"Late that night we were reunited in a mounted village from which most of the people had fled. An old woman was found to get us some food of which we partook, though without any appetite as it was coarse and unpalatable native macaroni. Seeing us thus unable to take the food one of our captors, a kindly youth, whispered, 'Eat, foreigner, eat, as we must go on the march again; the soldiers are only a half a mile from us.'

"We both protested and said that we could not walk another step that night. Fan came to the door and promised us horses but I said that my feet were very sore and that I had no shoes. He promised that he would buy me shoes on the morrow but that we must go on again that night. Thus we were put on horses again and went forward for about a mile when we were met by three

mounted men. These fellows proceeded to report to Fan and after a council of war we went on through the night for fully eight miles, though faint with weariness. There was no pause in the march until we had reached our objective. When the question arose about a place for us to sleep, they proposed putting us with the men. This we flatly refused to do so they found a partition and screened us off from the crowd.

"On the morning of our release we were up early and prepared for further flight, but when the day had fully dawned we could all see that the surrounding hills were occupied by the soldiers. I was given a pair of men's old worn shoes and the brigands made an attempt to get away. Up to a point that seemed to promise a loophole of escape; up and down we went and, at last, unable to go farther as the heights were all occupied by the soldiers, we sat down and watched the bullets flying about us all day long. Gradually the soldiers drew nearer. 'Shoot, shoot,' cried Fan, and the despairing answer came back from his followers: 'No ammunition, and our guns are ruined.' Then discipline broke down completely and it was every man for himself. The cry was. 'Run to wherever you can find a place of escape.' Though they had no hope now of keeping together, they still clung to the vain hope that they might keep us with them for their own protection and advantage.

BANDITS' MAD STAMPEDE.

"Late in the afternoon Miss Darroch and I were again separated as we were urged on in a mad stampede, to escape falling into the hands of the soldiers. It had been a very hard climb to the top of that high hill and it was not till fairly late that we discovered that the way out for the bandits was blocked. Then the cry of '*pao, pao*' (run, run) was echoed back from all the group. It was not a question of running but of rolling down the other side of the hill. The men who had me in charge would zigzag down the precipitous side of the hill and coming to a place where a foothold was impossible, we fell together and the men called out, 'Roll, roll,' and indeed there was no help for it but to roll, for that was what we were doing when the order was given.

"When we rolled into a tangle of thorns or brushwood there would be a desperate attempt to regain a footing and get away again. My eagerness was not nearly so great as theirs and they became impatient with me and grabbed me by the arm and hauled away at me to move onward. Then I asserted my rights and flared up at them for their treatment of a lady. Then there was a deprecating wave of the hand at the pursuing soldiers.

"At last by these means of locomotion, we came to a place which for me to descend was utterly impossible, a very steep

and stony descent of about 30 feet. The brigands let themselves down part way and then jumped the rest of the way. I absolutely refused to make the attempt to negotiate that way down and told them that I would go down on the bias (?) as there seemed a possibility of getting down in a zigzag course. Most of the immediate guard were down by that time, and seeing the soldiers drawing nearer and esteeming their personal safety of more import than a foreign lady made away without me. There was one fellow who was carrying my bundle containing the few things that friends had sent into us and this man followed me at a very leisurely step from stone to stone in the circuitous route I chose to take. But really I could not get down the way they had gone; even in the way I was going, I came to a place that was utterly impossible for me. There was a very large over-hanging rock with a cave underneath it and a sheer fall on the other downward side. All this time the pursuing soldiers were firing on the fleeing brigands, gaining all the time. The fellow who had been faithful in his attendance on me all this time and who was carrying my bundle at this point, seeing that he could not take me away with him threw down the bundle and made off as fast as he could. I crawled in under the rock on the far side with the bundle at my feet and for a time listened to the bullets striking the rock and whizzing overhead. While lying there hundreds of the fleeing brigands passed me without turning their heads to look, all madly intent upon their rush for safety.

At last when the flight of the bandits had ceased for some time I heard steps over my head and knew that the soldiers had arrived at my place of hiding. They stood there for some time firing after the fleeing brigands. During this respite I was thinking of Miss Darroch and hoping that in some way she had escaped too. Just as I was considering making myself known to the soldiers, I saw one of them looking carefully along the way as if for some of the fallen loot. He spied the bundle at my feet and made a dive for it exclaiming, 'It may have money.' I put my head out and casually said, 'Do not shoot' for his gun went immediately to his shoulder. 'Don't tone of voice. 'Yes, I am a foreigner.' 'Are you a foreigner?' he exclaimed in a very dubious tone of voice. 'Yes I am a foreigner, do not shoot,' I persisted. 'Truly, truly are you a foreigner?' he repeated and I could only persist in my affirmation that I was what I claimed to be. Then he lowered his gun and continued his examination of my bundle till he could see that the few articles which it contained were not the money that he was so eager to find.

HOW THE RESCUE WAS EFFECTED.

"It was little wonder that he had to ask repeatedly for assur-

ance that I was really a foreigner for my appearance did not conduce to the truth of my statement. After five weeks of being dragged about with the bandits during which time I had not had a change of clothing, my shoes were old and patched, a Chinese towel covered my head and with all the battered and dragged signs of the flight of the past three days fully in evidence, I could easily forgive him for doubting my statement."

Of this last day, Miss Darroch says, "We were all sitting on the hill together, with Fan beside us, when the cry went up, 'Run run,' and we, all animals and men rolled down the hill together. Two of the brigands seized my hands and pulled me down; they told me to sit down. I did so and they pulled me in that position, sometimes they pulled so hard that I fell over on my face but they just pulled on; bushes and briars caught my clothes but they had to give way and so were torn to ribbons. After a while they put me on a horse but soon coming to a sheer drop of about ten feet, I had to dismount and drop down. Some one seized my hand and pulled me on for some distance when I forcibly pulled my hand away and refused to go on. On looking up to see who was pulling me, I saw that it was Fan himself. He drew his revolver and said, 'If you won't run, I will shoot you' I said, 'Just shoot, I don't mind, but I can't run.' He looked behind and saw the soldiers were close behind us, so left me and ran. Chang, the second in command, was standing near with a horse he compelled me to mount and led me on some yards. Then he saw Fan in front running, he dropped the reins of my horse and ran to Fan and assisted him to mount another steed and they both rushed off. Fan tried to negotiate the hill opposite but the hill was so steep and stony that the horse lost its footing and both rolled down together. He scrambled to his feet, left his horse and climbed the high hill on his hands and feet. Other brigands passing me kept hitting my animal and shouting 'Run!' By and by all had passed and I was left half way up the hill; the horse, coming to a standstill, I got off. We were on a very narrow foot path with a high cliff on one side and a deep valley on the other. I crawled around the horse to where I could find a seat on a rock and rested for a few minutes. Bullets from the soldiers on the opposite hill hit the stones around me and as I waited I heard voices above me. Looking up I saw three men, I was not sure whether they were soldiers to rescue me or brigands who had come back to search for me, but I rose and faced them. One scrambled down to where I was and asked, 'Are you a foreigner?' I replied, 'Yes, I am a foreigner.' He clasped his hands in delight and said, 'Don't be frightened, we are Wu Pei-fu's

soldiers and have come to save you.' We descended to the valley below where there were about eight soldiers. He called, 'I have found one of the foreigners.' They all crowded around me in great delight, each one telling me not to fear as they were out to save me. They put me on a horse and led it up a very steep stony road. I said, 'I can't ride up there, I am too tired', but they assured me that the horse was quiet. I said, 'Quiet or not, I am too tired to ride that road.' They assured me that they would take care of me but I fell from exhaustion so they led me a longer but easier way up the hill, to where the soldiers were gathered. I urged all but one to leave me and go to rescue my comrade. They said there were others after her and they needed to take care of me as there were other bands of brigands about. We had not gone far when they said to me, 'They have found the other foreigner.' Coming to a bend in the road I looked across to another path, saw Miss Sharp and my joy was complete.

"We desire publicly to tell what our fellow missionaries were doing during these weeks on our behalf. Six of our missionaries not only offered to change places with us but took definite steps to do so, some with the Government and others by getting in touch with the brigand chief. Neither we nor the brigands were willing for this exchange to be made but we appreciate their offer. All the mission stations near us sent out men with food and clothing to try to reach us but owing to the difficulties and dangers only one succeeded and he got to us three times. Two of our missionaries kept in the wake of the brigands and were never far from us."

AMONG the many Conservative M.P.'s who suffered defeat at the polls we find the name of an old China hand in the person of Mr. Gershom Stewart, who was for many years a successful exchange broker in Hongkong. Mr. S. R. Dodds, the Liberal candidate, defeated him at Cheshire (Wirral Division) by 13,631 votes to Mr. Stewart's 11,791. Mr. Gershom Stewart was for some time a member of the Legislative Council in Hongkong and always took a prominent part in the Colony's affairs. He retired some 15 years ago, and shortly after his return to England he was elected a Conservative M.P. and has been sitting as such ever since. His name did not often appear in Hansard, and it was only when questions concerning China were on the agenda that one heard from him. Those who knew him during the many years he spent in the Crown Colony all testify to his sterling worth as a Scotch gentleman, who made his mark in these climes and his departure from the Colony was generally regretted. Mr. Stewart must be about 70 years old.

SCARCITY OF CRIMES IN CHEFOO

**Rigorous Regime of "Scared"
Police: A Heavy Snowfall:
Lace Industry Dying**

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chefoo, Nov. 24.

The winter has to-day advised us of its approach in a practical way. Snow is falling quite heavily at this moment and the indications are that we are in for a considerable fall before there is any abatement. This brings forth another very good example of the accuracy of the Chinese in their predictions on the Calendar. According to them we were to have our first snow to-day and, despite the fact that yesterday was almost summer-like, here it is. Yesterday no overcoat was necessary but to-day furs are in vogue. Still, variety is the spice of life.

Chefoo is one of those outposts where very little of consequence happens in a very long time. So far we are not even troubled by bandits although we do occasionally see a few—in captivity. Seven more arrived here from Dairen yesterday who will, during the course of the next week or two, pay the extreme penalty. These men had been carrying on their nefarious operations in Shantung but were eventually captured after escaping to Dairen. Chefoo has been extraordinarily free from crime during past years and the local officials seem determined to keep it so. The Police authorities, in view of the lone instance of banditry at the Shantung Bank some months ago, have placed Chefoo almost under martial law. Chinese are not allowed to walk the streets after 11 p.m. unless they can give a satisfactory reason to the police who stop them, whilst in No. 1 Section, the foreign residential quarter, the supervision is even more stringent. The Police may be almost described as "scared." They are liable to over-step the limits of their authority at times. Quite recently two foreigners were stopped in their rickshas and informed that rickshas were not allowed out after 11 p.m. This is of course ridiculous.

The Taoyin has ordered all Chinese establishments to display a light in front of their premises, this light to be burning all night. They have even attempted to take a census here. Most of the foreigners have been visited by the Police who have requested their age, nationality, occupation, and the amount of their means. Needless to say they have not always been successful in securing this information. The writer, for instance, informed them that their action was not in order and that if they required such information the Consulate was the place to get it. We are led to wonder what will happen in the event of the abolition of extraterritorial rights.

DULL MARKETS.

Trade conditions in Chefoo are not very bright at present. All markets are dull and there is very little new business forthcoming. Most houses are shipping fair quantities of pongee at present against orders booked earlier but the immediate prospects are far from encouraging. The cocoon crops have been more than usually bad this season and the result is that high prices are reigning whilst buyers are finding difficulty in securing goods to fulfil their orders. Many have over-sold and are losing considerably whilst dealers shew signs of defaulting in their contracts. Business is therefore anything but brisk and is not liable to be for some time as prices will undoubtedly rise further next month. This, combined with a rise in the Exchange does not forecast good for the pongee trade.

Like the pongee market, that dealing in hairnets cannot be described as being in too rosy a condition. Prices remain fairly steady for good cargo but the difficulty is to find that cargo. There are one or two large firms here who are buying on account of their own concerns in America and they alone can be described as doing well. With others conditions are very mixed. Cargo on the market is, generally speaking, poor. There are nets to be had at prices as low as 60 cents a gross whilst others cost over \$3.00. Many of the small Chinese concerns are in a very poor way and are losing money on every shipment. Some time ago there was a slight boom large quantities were sold. When the time came for securing the goods many found it impossible to secure at the price at which they had sold and, in order to fill the orders were obliged to pay more, resulting in a loss. They were unable to pay the dealers or brokers, as the case happened to be. The latter were, of course, also out of pocket and the result is that they are now obliged to keep supplying nets in order that the firms who owe them money may carry on. By this means they hope, eventually, to recover their losses, meanwhile the debts of both parties are ever on the increase. Great trouble may be expected when the Chinese New Year arrives and the time for squaring the books arrives.

The lace industry in Chefoo seems at present to be dying a natural death. Practically no business is being transacted. The Chinese have nobody but themselves to blame for this state of affairs as they have created it themselves by—in their attempts to "squeeze"—lowering their qualities. Home buyers, finding them unreliable, have almost ceased to evince any interest in this product.

From the above it will be obvious that Chefoo is not, at present, enjoying palm days. However, there is nothing like hoping for the best. With the world in its present state of general chaos a depression in trade is inevitable and we can

only hope that things will, in the not too far distant future, stabilize themselves with resultant benefit to all.

OPENING OF JAPANESE DIET

**Premier's Statement Regarding
Problems of [Reconstruction:
Appeal to the People**

Tokio, Dec. 11.

The extraordinary session of the Diet opened this morning.

The Prince Regent, in the uniform of a Lieutenant-Colonel, in his speech, expressed his pleasure at the unity of the people of Japan in the recent catastrophe and said that he was "profoundly impressed by the sincere sympathy shown by friendly Powers and the world." In conclusion, His Imperial Highness expressed the hope that the Members would discharge their duties in a spirit of harmony and co-operation.—Reuter.

Tokio, Dec. 11.

In the course of an interview with press representatives to-day, following the opening of the extraordinary session of the Imperial Diet, Premier Yamamoto, referring to various problems, especially the revival of Tokio, stated in part:—

"The undertaking is one that concerns the whole nation of Japan, which has succeeded in extending its national strength on the many occasions in the past that it has gone through national perils. The world is now giving considerable attention to whether or not Japan, which has undergone such an appalling blow, will be able to carry out the reconstruction of Tokio. It is, therefore, essential for the Japanese people not only to endeavour to bring their plan to success internally, but also to have such a determination as to make the undertaking a landmark of their capability in the eyes of the world.

The murders of Koreans and Chinese that occurred during the earthquake disaster are deeply deplorable. Most of the reports and accounts published by the press in this connexion are greatly exaggerated. These exaggerated reports have created a grave misunderstanding. The Japanese Government is fully determined to deal with the case on the basis of justice and the spirit of humanity."—Eastern News Agency.

Aso, the volcano near Kumamoto, Japan, has intensified its activity since the 4th instant, emitting columns of dense smoke and sending out ashes as far as Oita Prefecture, in the locality of Sakanashi, Miyaji. In Aso Gun, at the foot of the mountain, the ashes lay nearly a quarter of an inch deep on the 7th instant.

"PAY THE BALANCE"

Brand New Method for Squeezing the People: Smugglers' Paths to Avoid New Dues

From Our Own Correspondent.

Lanchowfu, Kan., Nov. 20.

From time immemorial, China has had smugglers. There are the smugglers over the frontiers, or across the seas, but there are also internal smugglers, people who carry dutiable goods from one province to another, or even from one country to another. Their number is accounted for by the endless multiplicity of Custom houses. Likin offices, general goods "squeeze" offices, "pay the balance" offices, monopoly offices, and so forth, that wring the money from the unwilling people throughout the length and breadth of this long suffering land. And the rapacity of the said offices explains the fact that to sneak past a Custom office, or more often to use little frequently roads that avoid it, is not regarded as a serious lapse from rectitude, provided the Customs officer does not catch the offender.

This "pay the balance" office is a brand new imposition here in Lanchow. It aims at getting money out of people who have received goods by parcel post. The Postal Commissioner here objected to it at first, and the merchants in the city did so strenuously for a time, but all now seem to acquiesce in its existence. The merchants will get the money out of the consumer, so it does not really matter to them if a hundred new offices are created. Some country people, and muleteers, however, feel differently when a new Customs barrier is erected, and the first thing of course is to see whether another route will not avoid it. Thus in addition to the main roads, we have a whole network of mountain paths, which are really the smuggler's roads. They are often very hilly, but not much roundabout, free from dust, quiet, and beautiful. They run along ridges of mountains, and command extensive views of the valleys where the main roads lie. They have their disadvantages of course. One is that the inns on the smuggler's roads are poor. Another is that there are not all the nice little Chinese "eats" to be had on them, such as frozen pears, or roast chicken, or sliced melon, or meat dumplings. But by taking his own food with him, the traveller can do without all these. And the beautiful views and freedom from dust are great compensations. It is easy, too, to lose the way, but then, if he is at his destination by nightfall, what does it matter anyway?

Mule bells, of course, on these roads may defeat the smuggler's aim. So they are often removed, and it is almost uncanny to meet a train of mules and donkeys winding round a hill crest, almost as silent as the grave, with only the tiny patter of their hoofs on

the well worn mountain trails. They carry salt, and cloth, and oil, and wine, and whatever else may be profitably hidden from the eyes of the pilfering publicans in the Custom houses that lie perhaps 3,000 feet in the valley below. And what huntsman's treasures these roads are! Where wild pigs—six, one forenoon I counted—and pheasants innumerable, and foxes, and at times a wolf, pass close to one, startled or half indignant that the rider should thus have invaded their preserves.

OPIUM GROWING IN HONAN

New Macadam Road Unfinished: Money Spent on Militia

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kueitch, Ho., Dec. 3.

Opium has been sown in large quantities throughout this country. Along the Lung-Hai Railway to Suchowfu there are patches right close up to the railway line. The money paid to the authorities for this privilege, (sic.) is \$8 a mow.

The macadam road from the R. R. station through the city is still uncompleted. Inside both the East and West gates and through part of the East suburb the road has been cut down about a foot and has been left in this state for 18 months now. \$5,000 was appropriated last spring for the completion of this work but nothing has been done. The money has gone to buy t'u fei into the militia from which they are now returned to their old occupation.

Hunan Troops' Outrages on Italian Missions

Peking, Dec. 9.

It is reported that the Italian Legation has lodged a complaint with the Waichiaopu in regard to outrages committed by Chinese troops on Italian missions in several parts of Hunan.—Reuter.

China Station Reliefs

London, Dec. 7.

The light-cruiser Weymouth en route for the China Station with relief crews for the light-cruiser Durban and the sloop Magnolia will leave Sheerness on December 15. She reaches Colombo on January 21, and arrives at Singapore, where she will meet the Durban and Magnolia, on February 1.—Reuter.

THE Hongkong Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd., is making its second call on shareholders. On the \$10 shares \$1.25 has been called up and the present call is for \$2.75.

BANDIT'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Merchants and Gentry Guests at Robber's Feast: Honan Marauders Still Lively

By Rodney Gilbert

Peking, Dec. 4.

General Chang Fu-lai, military governor of Honan, recently sent a telegram to the Government reporting that he had taken the field in person and had achieved a clean sweep of all the bandits in his province. This was so obviously untrue that the local press in all languages has taken great delight in proving that, while Lao Yang-jen and his following may have crossed the border to harass Hupeh, Honan is still as lively as ever and the tufei seemingly as numerous even in the districts abandoned by the larger bandit armies.

As published yesterday in the "Hsun T'ien Shih Pao" tells of the activities of the Red Spear Society (*Hung Ch'iang Hui*) throughout the province. The members of this cult indulge in blackmail and robbery and frequently co-operate with any bands of tufei that come along to loot and kidnap wealthy Chinese. The authorities regard the growth of this organization as a serious menace and even while Chang Fu-lai was reporting how effectively he had cleaned house in Honan he was issuing orders to regiments from the 14th Division and from the 1st Shensi Division to proceed against the Red Spear bandits in the Kueichih, Kuangshan and Hsihsien districts where more than 3,000 of the marauders have lately been very active.

Apart from the many Honan bandit stories with which the papers are filled, there are many accounts of bandit enterprises in Shantung. The "Ch'ien Pao" today publishes a letter from Hua-ch'eng in Shantung giving an amusing account of a bandit birthday party. A prominent bandit chief, Chao Ch'eng-chih, recently had a birthday and invited the whole countryside to a most elaborate party. The country within a 70-li radius was guarded by armed bandit sentries, but all who came as guests were shown every courtesy. The wealthier merchants and the gentry all attended and had a splendid time.

In spite of the unsettled condition of the country, says the Asiatic News Agency, commerce and industry have been making rapid strides. From January 1, up to the end of October, no fewer than 60,000 companies had been registered in the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce, with a total capital of more than \$35,000,000. Among them are more than a dozen banks and a number of cotton spinning factories.

WIRELESS AT WU-CHANG

A Dry Autumn: Demolition of Wall Delayed: Campaign Against Ignorance

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, Nov.

Now that the storm centre of this neighbourhood has shifted to Changsha, there is less apprehension than is often the case as to the behaviour of the soldiers in the city. Many have gone to Hunan, so we are at peace, for the present at any rate.

The autumn, for the second year in succession, has been very dry, and for the second year in succession also we have a water famine—and with the Yangtse at our doors! Wells and ponds are largely dry, and those living to the east of the city, a long way from the river, have to spend large sums in having water brought to them. Yet there is abundant water close by and water works could be built at a minimum cost and certainly prove a paying concern. But year by year goes on and nothing happens: the old problems have to be faced each autumn, and expense and disappointment are the result.

A second disappointment is that the promised demolition of the city wall has again failed to materialize. Work was actually commenced a week ago, but now has ceased. Probably somebody was not getting a large enough squeeze. The wall is no protection but the reverse, while the inconvenience to the people is very great. Guards are placed at all the gates, and insist upon inspecting all burdens brought in and carried out: though why the latter annoyance should be persisted in is strange indeed. At the narrow city gates crowds of water carriers, foot passengers, and rickshas, jostle and splash each other, while the air is full of abusive epithets as one or another comes into collision. Yet it goes on as it has gone on: everyone knows it to be an unnecessary nuisance, but no one can bring it to an end.

EVIDENCE OF THE NEW.

In contrast with this persistence in the old, comes some occasional evidence of the new. Just inside the large East Gate there tower up for 300 feet the new iron lattice work aerials of the wireless telegraphy station. These came into being, so the popular report has it, because the Governor wished to be in constant communication with his chief at Loyang. Where there is a will, China usually can find a way!

A new movement in the intellectual world is also a sign of hope. Some of the leaders of China have discovered the great illiteracy of the people, and have

set to work to organize a campaign against ignorance. Mr. T'ao, Secretary of the Movement, came the other day from Peking, and held many meetings, and inaugurated this attempt to establish people's schools everywhere. Four little primers contain 1,000 of the commonest characters, and these are supposed to be learned in four months by the pupil giving an hour a day to it. Processions paraded the city with a view to giving publicity to the movement, and the walls are decorated with appeals to the patriotic to learn or teach the new primers. One interesting thing about this new move, is that the leaders have entirely abandoned the use of the National Phonetic Script, of which so much was heard and so much hoped only a few years ago. Still if the new movement to learn 1,000 characters can succeed where the other, which only required one to learn 40 letters, largely failed, everyone will be grateful to it. We wish Mr. T'ao and his helpers all success.

CHINESE TRADE MARK LAW

Cold Reception By Diplomatic Body: Chinese Astonishment at Foreign Attitude

By Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Dec. 3.

The need of a trade mark law in China has long been felt and for something more than a generation foreign traders in this country have been complaining that they have had no protection against imitations, adulterations, forged labels and what not. The Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce has recently evolved a perfectly good trade-mark law, based upon the best foreign precedents, with the inevitable accompaniment of a registration fee. After all the rumpus about the lack of such laws, the Chinese authorities are astonished to find that foreign firms are in no haste to register and that the Diplomatic Body has even gone so far as to make recognition of the new regulations a diplomatic issue. To the majority of Chinese this is beyond comprehension.

The real difficulty is that, in spite of bitter experience, the Chinese have never learned that the ultra-practical foreigner will always insist upon making a distinction between forms and performances. They cannot understand that the mere promulgation of a law upon good paper in excellent handwriting, chopped with a seal cut by an acknowledged master in seal cutting, does not take the place of an effective guarantee of protection.

The Diplomatic Body reserves the right to approve of the new copyright laws before they are

made binding upon all foreigners and foreign imports in China. They insist that they have the right to approve or reject the new regulations before the Chinese can say that all foreigners who register are protected and that those who do not register and pay the stipulated fee are not entitled to protection. Before they approve of the new regulations they want to know what steps a Government which cannot control its own military affairs, its own revenue collections, and its own appointments, in outlying provinces, can offer those who pay a registration fee in Peking that their copyrights will be protected throughout China. Finally the diplomats want some guarantee that those who have been registered with the Customs for many years past will be given prior recognition.

NO RECOGNITION.

At a recent meeting of the Diplomatic Corps it was generally agreed that there was nothing whatever the matter with the new copyright regulations, but that lacking the proper guarantees everything might be the matter with the administration of them and that, therefore, the Powers could not recognize the new law without considerable negotiation leading to effective guarantees. The only thing to do was to enter a protest against the promulgation of a new law affecting foreigners, pending the time when the Chinese authorities should see fit to ask the Diplomatic Body for approval, after which foreign concurrence might or might not be arranged. This accordingly has been done, much to the indignation of the Chinese, and for the time being, foreigners are under no obligation to register trade marks with the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce and the new regulations are officially unknown to the Legations. The whole question of trademarks might have been easily and amicably settled if the authorities had understood clearly that the Legations had to be consulted before new laws could be imposed upon foreign traders. The modern tendency to dodge treaties and to infringe gradually upon foreign extraterritorial rights has led to the present impasse and the Legations are fully warranted in ignoring the new law, good as it may be, until their approval of it has been solicited through the proper channels.

MR. A. B. CALDER, formerly in the United States diplomatic service in Switzerland and Russia, and later in the Peking office of the American Commercial Attaché, has just returned to the Far East from a stay in America to take charge of the branch office in Kobe of the American Commercial Attaché, replacing Mr. Steintorf, who has sailed for America. Mr. Calder was married while in America and has brought his wife with him.

DISASTROUS FIRE IN NANKING

National University Buildings
Seriously Damaged and
Some Destroyed

From Our Own Correspondent.

Nanking, Dec. 12.

A disastrous fire occurred early this morning in the National South-eastern University and the large quadrangle was destroyed. The loss is estimated at about \$300,000. The destroyed buildings include the laboratories and a library containing some 33,000 books and valuable records and manuscripts. The origin of the outbreak is unknown, but the buildings were insured for only \$150,000.

Immense Loss in Schools'
Records and Valuable
Equipment

Nanking, Dec. 12.

The National Southeastern University suffered a great loss by fire early to-day. The large quadrangle, the oldest set of buildings of the campus, was burnt to the ground. The loss includes most of the University Library; the Physics and Biological Laboratories; part of the Chemical Laboratory; the offices of the Engineering, Educational, Agricultural, and Science and Arts Departments, the Psychological Laboratory, the Registrar's office, a large number of classrooms and many valuable records and books in the offices of various professors.

The fire, of unknown origin, broke out about midnight in the southwest corner upstairs. The alarm was given by two servants staying in the building, but, fanned by a fierce wind, the flames spread very rapidly. The Fire Department arrived too late to help. Students and teachers were able to save a few important papers and books, but the Library is almost a total loss: 3,000 English books and over 30,000 Chinese books are gone. These books were to have been moved by next week into the new Library Building which is almost completed. Many professors have lost manuscripts and data of inestimable value, which it will take years to replace.

The loss, in buildings, laboratory apparatus and books, is estimated at nearly \$300,000. Insurance will cover about half of this amount.

Before daylight a special meeting was called of the executive committee of the faculty and administrative officers. It was decided to suspend classes for one day, but to carry on after that by crowding into other buildings. The University of Nanking has offered the use of its library and laboratories.

Fortunately, the long line of student dormitories near the

quadrangle was saved. Covered archways had to be torn down.

Faculty and students are meeting the situation with courage and determination.

* * * The National Southeastern University of Nanking was formerly known as the Government Teachers' College, or the Nanking Higher Normal College. It covers a very select piece of land measuring more than 80 acres, apart from enormous lands which are used as gardens and an experimental station. There is a large number of buildings on the land, which is situated at the foot of the Drum Tower Road and Pei-chi-koh. The library was erected a couple of years ago, Marshal Chi Shieh-yuan, Tsuchun of Kiangsu, and his father having personally contributed the funds. Marshal Chi's predecessor, Gen. Li Shun, also left a large sum to the University in his will. Dr. P. W. Kuo, a returned student from America (where he received his doctor's degree), who is one of the foremost educators in China, is president of the University. Dr. Kuo was in Nanking at the time of the outbreak, having left Shanghai a few days ago. The University has a Shanghai branch in Avenue Joffre (in the old International Institute building), which is known as the Shanghai College of Commerce.—Ed.

MIXED-BREED PONIES

Hongkong Agreed to Bar Them
from Races

Hongkong, Dec. 12.

Extraordinary interest has been aroused in connexion with a very largely attended meeting of the Jockey Club this evening with the object of amending the racing rules so as to bar mixed-breed ponies from racing in Hongkong.

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s board room was packed with members, many of whom stood on the verandah during the proceedings, which took over an hour.

Mr. P. Tester, moving the resolution, stated in the course of an exhaustive speech that it was a matter of great regret that, when Hongkong Stewards decided to follow the Shanghai Race Club in the reduction of the height limit, they slipped up over the necessity of bringing certain machinery into operation for legalizing their action. "We are of the decided opinion," Mr. Tester said, "now that we have had the opportunity of seeing specimens of the animals at present debarred by Shanghai, that no time should be lost in giving effect to the steps that our Stewards so properly endeavoured to take some while back to protect both our sport and our interests."

Captain Oxspring seconded the resolution.

Mr. C. C. Boyd, on behalf of the Stewards, moved an amendment with the object of enabling ponies already brought down to race at the next annual meeting, after which the height limit would be reduced to 13 hands 3 inches.

Mr. F. B. Marshall seconded.

One hundred and twenty-three members voted for and 31 against

FOREIGN BANKS AT VLADIVOSTOK

Whether They Remain or Will
Quit Still Unascertainable

With further reference to the intended enforcement of the Foreign Bank Law at Vladivostok, we have not yet been confirmed in our previous report that both the Yokohama Specie Bank and the Bank of Chosen have arranged to keep in business, the latter under the style of the Matsuda Bank. The term of business of the foreign banks at the Siberian port, as specified by the Soviet Russia Financial Committee for the Far East in its notification, having expired on October 30, any foreign bank doing business there has to pay a tax amounting to 5 per cent of its capital. This tax will amount to Y. 5,000,000 for the Yokohama Specie Bank, Y. 4,000,000 for the Bank of Chosen, and \$1,000,000 Mex. for the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation. In the present state of Vladivostok, business there does not positively warrant paying a tax of such a fictitious amount.

Moreover, the Soviet Russia requires, by virtue of her law, the staff of each foreign bank and firm at Vladivostok to subscribe to a sort of labour insurance and on this account, each bank and firm will have to bear the premiums charged for the insurance upon the members of its staff.

Such being the case, the Japanese banks rather feel advised to withdraw from the field from a business point of view.

The Bank of Chosen, is, however, so peculiarly situated as to find it awkward to close its Vladivostok branch even at more or less sacrifice. Even, as to the Yokohama Specie Bank, the management, knowing how difficult it will be to reopen its branch once it has been withdrawn, seems to be in no hurry to close it up, although it appears ready to quit, in case of the heavy tax above mentioned being collected.

Pending further advices from Vladivostok, we shall be kept in the dark as to whether the two leading Japanese banks there have decided to remain or not.

MARSHAL Wu Pei-fu, High Military Inspecting Commissioner of Chihli, Shantung and Honan, has asked President Tsao Kun to issue a mandate ordering Gen. Chao Heng-ti, Governor of Hunan, to attack Kuangtung from the north.

the amendment, which was carried.

A traditional sportsmanlike spirit prevailed throughout the lengthy proceedings.—Reuter.

THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST PLAGUE

How It is Spread: Congress of Far Eastern Assn. of Tropical

Medicine: Dr. Wu Lien-teh's Lecture Tour in Japan:

Hospital Extensions in Manchuria: Report of
North Manchurian Prevention League

The following report of the North Manchurian Plague Prevention Service's work has been submitted to the Minister for Foreign Affairs by Dr. Wu Lien-teh, Director and Chief Medical Officer:—

I have the honour to submit a summary of the Eleventh Annual General Report of the North Manchurian Plague Prevention Service for the year ending September, 1923. Owing to my having had to visit Japan as Exchange Professor during October, this month is for convenience included in the present Report.

The past year has been practically free from plague so far as Manchuria is concerned. Three sporadic cases were reported two in the endemic areas of Transbaikalia and one near Yakosih, a station on the Chinese Eastern Railway between Mentuho and Hailar. As these cases had a close relation to the epizootics then occurring among the tarabagans (Siberian marmots), a detailed statement may be given here.

Patient 1 was a Russian hunter aged 24. He reported sick on May 20 with high fever and a bubo in right armpit. He complained of pain in chest, had slight diarrhoea and cough with blood-stained sputum. He died on the 22nd.

Patient 2 was a Russian tarabagan hunter, aged 37 years, and lived 15 versts from Haranor. He had fever on May 16 with a bubo in right axilla, and died on the 20th with characteristic signs of plague.

Patient 3 was a young Russian girl of 12 years living at Station 83 near Dauria (54 versts west of Manchouli). Her family hunted tarabagans and she helped in handling them. She developed a bubo in right axilla and died on September 3.

It was significant that all three patients were Russians, all showed buboes in the right armpit, and all died of the infection, confirmed later on by animal experiments.

SOURCE OF PLAGUE.

After prolonged researches extending for over ten years, we have at last established the connecting link—so to say—between the Siberian marmot and the pneumonic plague outbreaks of 1910-11, 1917-18 and 1920-21. As a result of our investigations conducted this year in Siberia, we are now satisfied that the tarabagan harbours the plague organism in the natural state, which on suitable occasion becomes more virulent and produces epizootics in certain areas. Should human beings encounter such diseased animals, they are liable to contract the disease in a bubonic or septicemic form which in turn tends to affect the lungs and thus under suitable conditions endangers the community with a pneumonic outbreak.

Working in the endemic regions during the months of May-

September of this year, the Chinese Russian expedition discovered at least eleven tarabagans suffering from plague in the natural state. Such findings have up to now been difficult, because of the short duration of the epidemics among animals, of the rapidity with which eagles and animals of prey devoured sick and dead tarabagans in the fields, and of the wild nature of the country. Other interesting facts established by us during this year were:—

(a) the persistence with which ectoparasites like fleas, lice and ticks, stick to the carcasses and even pelts of the tarabagans.

(b) the possibility of lice as well as fleas conveying plague from animal to animal by bite.

(c) the long duration taken by the plague bacillus to kill the hibernating tarabagan. Three of our animals experimented in winter lived for 73, 41, and 21 days after inoculation. Some showed the disease in a chronic state.

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Cholera has been entirely absent from Manchuria and North China this year, though there were small outbreaks in Shanghai and some ports in the south. Scarlet fever invaded many parts of North Manchuria, and severe cases were reported from Taheiho. The type met with was as malignant as that seen in Peking and Tientsin and often killed all the younger members of a family. This disease is worth careful investigation. Dysentery and other bowel diseases were also frequent throughout the summer, and 50 cases of the former were admitted into Harbin Hospital in July. Erysipelas was quite prominent and attacked two members of our medical staff in severe form. Typhus was practically absent this year. Both small-pox and influenza were not unusually common, being quite mild in characters. Cattle plague broke out in a severe form in March May in the Suihua and Lopei districts (Heilungkiang). At the request of the Governor we sent two Assistant Medical Officers there, and the epidemic was suppressed by end of June.

TROPICAL MEDICINE CONGRESS.

On August 18 I left Shanghai to attend the fifth Congress of the Far Eastern Association of Tropical Medicine held in this year at Singapore. I officiated as Government delegate from Peking as well as a Vice President of the Association. Under the presidency of Dr. A. L. Hoops, Principal Civil Medical Officer, Straits Settlements, the Conference lasted from September 1-14 and was attended by representatives from the Philippines, Hongkong, French-Indo China, Netherlands Indies, Straits Settlements, Malay States, Australia,

India, China, Japan, Siam, Formosa, Sarawak, British North Borneo, and Macao. There were 80 oversea members, of whom 12 came from Japan and two from China. The other Chinese delegate besides myself was Dr. Liang Po-chiang of Shanghai.

At this Congress I read two papers, namely;

(a) The Original Home of Plague, and

(b) Plague in Wild Rodents, including latest Investigations upon the Tarabagan.

Much interest was also centred upon the prevention of beri-beri (regarding which the American delegation suggested enactment of laws enforcing the sale of non-polished rice, but this proposal was defeated), control of malaria, and revised quarantine procedure for the Orient. The local British government extended to the visitors every hospitality at Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh and Penang, and issued free railway tickets to the official delegates. It was decided to hold the next Congress at Tokio in 1925 with Professor Kitasato as President.

ARRIVAL IN JAPAN.

I arrived at Shanghai from the south on October 7, and the same evening left for Nagasaki in order to be in time for the Medical Conference at Kagashima, to which I had been invited as the principal speaker. My lecture on "Researches upon the Siberian Marmot" lasted one and half hours and was heard by 800 persons, mostly Japanese doctors attending the Conference. After that I visited the Universities of Kyoto, Osaka and Tokio, and delivered a series of addresses upon Hygiene in the Orient, Pneumonic Plague, Interdependence of Japanese and Chinese Medicine, etc. Everywhere I was received with the greatest courtesy by government officials, scientists and medical men, and in spite of the recent earthquake was shown every hospitality. This is the first occasion on which a Chinese had been invited to Japan as Exchange Professor, and the opportunity was seized by both sides to cultivate more friendly relations. Whenever possible, I urged my Japanese colleagues to map out new lines of research in medicine and hygiene, which might prove of greater benefit to eastern nations than mere academical and abstract problems. I returned to China on November 5.

Two important meetings were held in the course of the year:

(a) On August 14 Gen. Chu Ching-lan invited representatives from the Heilungkiang Province, Chinese Eastern Railway and our Service to discuss with him methods for the control of the tarabagan skin trade which had been prohibited by the Tschun for the past two years. The meeting recommended the establishment of offices at Manchouli and Hailar, where medical inspectors could control the issuance of permits to hunters and the disinfection of skins before export, but the Governor of the province in a dispatch dated September 18 vetoed this recommendation. Total prohibition of the trade therefore continues, but much smuggling is done across the border.

and these skins are now exported *via* Kalgan and Tientsin.

(b) At the invitation of the medical authorities of Transbaikalia, I left Harbin for Chita on July 29, and attended a conference initiated by them on August 1-4. We discussed many aspects of the tarabagan problem, and agreed that, although this animal has now been definitely proved to be the real precursor of plague in those regions, it was essential for economic reasons to regulate, rather than prohibit, hunting and traffic in their skins. Some workable regulations were passed, and I returned on August 6.

I have pleasure in reporting considerable hospital extensions throughout Manchuria. Our Service bought a large very fine stone building at Manchouli for the use of our out-patient clinic as well as quarters for the medical staff. At Newchwang, we have erected a series of permanent brick detention sheds with accommodation for 400 persons. The *kangs* there are of a hygienic nature, the wooden boards resting on ferro-concrete supports and thus allowing thorough cleaning and disinfection. The total cost is \$35,000.

At Antung, the sum of Tls. 40,000 has been granted by the Customs for the erection of a quarantine hospital at the anchorage spot for steamers on the River Yalu. At Mukden, a large city hospital—the north-eastern—has been erected by the local authorities at a cost of Mex. \$600,000, consisting of 28 separate blocks accommodating 400 beds. At Chinghsien, a fine moderate sized hospital has been built by the Peking-Mukden Railway with Dr. Lumley in charge. The South-Manchurian Railway has commenced operations for the erection of a large railway hospital at Dairen with accommodation for 450 persons. Both architects and contractors are Americans, and the total cost will reach Y. 4,000,000.

In view of these great improvements around us, I earnestly hope that our Service, which has now entered its twelfth year of existence, may be allowed to have more appropriation for its activities. In spite of the increased cost of living and the much enhanced price of all materials, we are receiving the same allowance as twelve years ago.

A Commission consisting of Drs. Norman White and Miyajima visited our Harbin Hospital on March 22-29 on behalf of the Health Section of the League of Nations and consulted our staff regarding mutual cooperation in quarantine work and the eradication of epidemics in the Orient. It is hoped that before long the present unsuitable laws enacted in Paris years ago will be changed.

WET SUMMER.

The past summer has been unusually wet, floods having on more than one occasion threatened to invade the city of Harbin. In fact the situation looked so bad about the end of August that new dykes were hurriedly built. Fortunately little material damage was done by the rising water. In other parts of Manchuria, miles of railway tracks were washed away, and both the South-Manchurian

and Peking-Mukden Railway were seriously affected by the floods. The peasants also suffered through damage to their crops. A heavy snowfall occurred at Harbin on October 19.

All our Station Hospitals report progress. No plague or cholera was reported at any spot. The following are figures of out-patients seen at the respective hospitals in 1922-23, as compared with previous years:—

	1922-23	1921-22	1920-21	1919-20	1918-19
Harbin	15,343	9,345	5,058	11,468	10,474
Taheiho	8,037	4,290	4,649	6,585	6,513
Sansing	5,235	4,054	3,631	4,694	3,677
Lahasusu	1,470	2,213	3,229	1,885	1,089
Newchwang	3,693	3,043	3,225	3,230	—
Manchouli	2,347	2,291	—	—	—

The following comprised the personnel of the Service during the past year:—

Dr. Wu Lien-teh, Director and Chief Medical Officer; Mr. R. C. L. d'Anjou, (Commissioner of Customs) Lay Director and Treasurer; Dr. J. W. H. Chun, Senior Medical Officer, Harbin; Dr. R. Pollitzer, Bacteriologist, Harbin; Dr. Lin Chia Swee, Serologist, Harbin; Dr. E. B. Young, Senior Medical Officer, Newchwang; Dr. Tang Tsung Nien, Senior Medical Officer, Taheiho (resigned September 30); Dr. Shih Chi Liang, Resident Medical Officer, Sansing; Dr. Y. M. Kwan, Resident Medical Officer, Manchouli; Dr. Li An, Resident Medical Officer, Manchouli; Dr. Shih Wei Hua, Resident Medical Officer, Taheiho; Dr. Li En Chang, Deputy Medical Officer, Lahasusu; Mrs. Y. C. Y. Cheh, Deputy Female Medical Officer, Taheiho; Miss N. C. Chung, Senior Nurse, Harbin; and Miss Chu Tsai Chen, Senior Nurse, Newchwang.

In conclusion, I wish to express my best thanks to the Chinese Government, Chinese-Eastern and South-Manchurian Railways for facilities granted me in the prosecution of my work. Our relations with the Japanese, Russian and Soviet medical officers have been of a most cordial nature. I am also indebted to our Customs Officers at various stations in Manchuria for frequent assistance rendered to members of our staff in the course of their duty.

Destitute Russians in Peking

Peking, Dec. 10.

The Peking press is calling the attention of the Metropolitan Police to the large number of destitute Russians begging and peddling in the streets and calls on the police to co-operate with local charitable institutions to relieve the immediate needs of these unfortunates.—Reuter.

The last of the ten foot boundary wall which used to run along the back of the Russian concession in Hankow, says the "Central China Post," is now being taken down as a three storied building to house the Wah An Insurance Company is to be erected on the Chinese territory just behind.

RIVER TRAFFIC AT HANGCHOW

Measures to Relieve Congestion: Theatricals in Schools To Be Prohibited

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hangchow, Dec. 7.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hangchow, Shaoshing, and Ningpo are petitioning the Civil Governor to put more launches and tow boats on the free ferry at Changtow to relieve the congestion of the traffic across the river which is very great now.

Hsu Chung-chih from Canton is visiting the Tupan on business of which we know nothing. The Governor must be very tired of having hot air blown into his ear. They are legion who want to interview him.

In some of the schools the students who are all more or less born actors are overstepping the limits of propriety in their theatrical performances and stunts are now being taken to prohibit theatricals in the schools and a very good thing too as privileges in this matter are easily abused.

Quite a number of tradesmen are anxious to go to Japan to help in the rebuilding of the places destroyed by the earthquake and are asking the Civil Governor for passports.

Later.

The Kiangsi Tuchun has sent a deputy by the name Woo to arrange with General Lu a compact of peace and union between the two provinces. Mr. Wu is here but as the Tupan has lost his wife yesterday an interview has not been possible. The business, however, has been arranged, we are told, through a friendly go-between and is quite satisfactory.

THE foreign captives, who were for seven weeks the enforced guests of Sun Mei-yao, bandit-chief in the mountains behind Lincheng, assembled on Sunday at Mr. Carl Crow's residence in Route Ghisi for the purpose of showing their appreciation to Mr. Roy Anderson for his services on that occasion. Mr. J. B. Powell, whom it will be remembered, acted as messenger on parole and made several trips to the outer world, in a short and graphic speech, made the presentation of the silver plaque to Mr. Anderson. In accepting the remembrance, upon which the names of the captives had been engraved, the recipient declared his willingness to have acted in the past, but did not care to have the same worries again. The ceremony had been delayed to this time—six months later—because Mr. Anderson was in the interior. Mr. Crow, for his relief work, and Mr. Wen Shih-tsen, Commissioner of Foreign Affairs at Nanking, also an active negotiator, received similar recognition previously.

POPPY CULTIVATION IN HONAN

Shansi's Border Hsiens Following the Bad Example: Shansi

Governor's Anxiety

Peking, Dec. 10.

The International Anti Opium Association has received the following communication from its branch at Taiyuanfu under date of November 29:—

In accordance with reports submitted by one of our officers at Lich'enghsien, Shansi, we are enabled to forward you the subjoined statement:—

"Chuhhsien and its eastern and western districts in Honan province are now sowing poppy seeds. These are obtained from a district named Paishanch'un, where they are usually sold at 7 or 8 cents per ho (1/100th of bushel), but now the price has risen to ten cents. This gives the impression that opium cultivation must be enormous.

The Shehsien district is divided into 28 yuen-kuan, and a mow in each kuan is taxed \$10. All planters must be registered and pay \$5 in advance, the other half of the taxation to be paid on harvesting.

As Lihhsien, of Shansi, and Shehsien, of Honan, are neighbours there is great difficulty in ensuring successful prohibition of the opium evils in the Lihhsien district, in spite of its being under a separate jurisdiction.

The reporter made a secret investigation and states that the above report is accurate. He implores the International Anti-Opium Association to lodge a strong protest. Accordingly we have petitioned the Civil Governor of Honan through Governor Yen to take immediate action.

GOVERNOR OF SHANSI'S PROTEST.

Civil Governor Yen Hsi-shan, of Shansi, has filed a memorandum with the Civil Governor of Honan requesting him to take immediate steps for the suppression of opium cultivation in his province. The memorandum, after reciting the facts given above, proceeds:—

Opium prohibition is an affair which internally affects the national foundation and externally affects diplomatic relations. The Opium Committee of the League of Nations has often taken us to task on this matter, and the Central Government has had to issue mandates dealing with the situation. In spite of the fact that Lihhsien and Shehsien are under our respective control, the work of opium suppression is greatly hindered in the former by reason of the conditions prevailing in the latter. If no measures are taken to prevent opium planting in the Shehsien district, the work of opium suppression in Shansi will be adversely affected. The Shansi Branch of the International Anti-Opium Association pleads that Shehsien is in a deplorable con-

dition and that members cannot sit still and look on. They there fore humbly urge the Civil Governor of Shansi to beseech the Civil Governor of Honan to take active steps to prevent opium cultivation and consumption within his province.—Reuter.

UNIVERSITY OF TOKIO'S LIBRARY

An Appeal for Books

Paris, Dec. 10.

On the motion of the Japanese representative, Professor Nitobe, the International Commission for Intellectual Co-operation is appealing to universities, literary and scientific bodies and private persons throughout the world to give books to restore the foreign collections in the library of the Imperial University in Tokio, which was destroyed by fire after the earthquake. The Commission suggests that books should be sent to the Japanese Embassies in the respective countries.—Reuter.

London, Dec. 10.

There was a large attendance of University representatives and those of learned societies and publishers present at a meeting presided over by the Earl of Balfour as President of the British Academy, convened for the purpose of organizing a gift of books to the Library of the Tokio Imperial University. The Earl of Balfour made a sympathetic speech in the course of which he referred to a letter which he had received from the President of the University describing the calamitous losses sustained by the library and appealing for help from fellow nations. The Earl of Balfour stated that the British Foreign Office had invited the British Academy to undertake the task. On the motion of the High Commissioner for India, an executive committee of the most influential character possible was constituted for the purpose of organising the effort.—Reuter.

Miss Dorothy Estcourt, formerly a resident of Peking, is visiting friends in the Maritime Chinese Customs in Yunnan. Miss Estcourt expects to leave for her home in England shortly.

It is said that in consequence of the earthquake disaster the wedding ceremony of H.I.H. the Prince Regent will be carried out in very simple style, and that advice has lately been conveyed to foreign Courts and Governments through the Japanese Ambassadors and Ministers abroad that it is hoped that special envoys will not be sent to attend the ceremony, reports the "Kobe Herald." Accordingly it will be left to the Ambassadors and Ministers in Tokio to convey congratulations on behalf of their monarchs or presidents.

RETIREMENT OF MR. SUGDEN OF CHEFOO

Popular Commissioner Now Joining Silk Commission

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chefoo, Dec. 7.

Several changes have taken, or will, take place in the official circles of Chefoo in the near future. According to reports both the Taotai and the Chinese Superintendent of Customs have been ordered to other posts. The former will be relieved by the official at present holding a similar position in Tsinantu.

Mr. A. H. Sugden has recently retired from the position of Commissioner of Customs here and has been succeeded by Lt. Col. F. Hayley Bell, D.S.O., who took up his duties on the 14th ultimo. Mr. Sugden has been a very popular Commissioner here and, during his term of office, has displayed great energy in pushing forward several schemes with a view to the improvement of the port as a commercial centre. His most noteworthy efforts have been made in connexion with the Silk Commission in connexion with which, in view of his sterling work, it has been deemed advisable to retain his services. The furtherance of the work of this Commission has great bearing upon the future welfare of the pongee trade in Chefoo and the port is to be congratulated upon being able to retain Mr. Sugden in his new capacity. A tiffin, instigated by the combined General and British Chambers of Commerce, will be given in his honour tomorrow at which the members will take the opportunity of showing their appreciation of his services in the form of a presentation.

Despite the bad state of trade Chefoo is gradually beginning to assert its importance. This is exemplified by the fact that ocean steamers are now making this a port of call, thereby offering the facility of direct loading. The West Jester, operated by the Columbia Pacific Company, recently loaded about 200 tons for Portland whilst the Ermland left here on the 4th instant having taken on board about 400 tons for Europe. In both cases the cargo consisted chiefly of groundnuts and, as neither of the vessels concerned was fully loaded, they were able to enter within the breakwater limits. Other vessels are advertised to call within the near future.

Market conditions have recently shown little change. Business is still quiet and prices, in all lines, remain firm.

The weather conditions indicate the rapid approach of winter and heavy snow fell on November 29 and 30.

ADVENTURES IN CHINA

On the Railway and in the Houseboat

Travelling from Shanghai into the northern Interior on the Chinese railways is a very precarious business, as I have reason to know writes Shanghaier in the "Newcastle Chronicle." I had been in a carriage travelling for about half a day, when the train suddenly came to a standstill, and after waiting a long time, thinking every minute would see us moving off, I looked out of a small window. I soon had I shown my face, than a number of soldiers, armed with rifles, came into the car and demanded all my belongings.

Of course, resistance was useless, so I had to watch all my personal and household effects being handed out to several more soldiers on the platform. They then came and took me out, and pointing away some distance, I was made to understand that I was going there.

I was forced to walk many miles away from this place, called Suchowfu, and kept in a most miserable mud hovel, given Chinese "chow" to eat with two soldiers, or bandits wearing soldiers' clothes, watching me all the time. There was no privacy, no washing accommodation, and they were all the time laughing and jeering, and telling each other that soon the "Foreign Devil" become very sick.

I was released after three days, and taken to a point, where they left me, and after walking as best I could for a very long time, I came to the railway lines again, but could not discern which way I should go. I had lost all count of places and roads.

After following the rails for a time I came to a station, but I could not make myself understood, so had to go on, after receiving some native rice, from the dirty station master. I reached Pukou eventually, without as much as would pay my ferry passage to Nanking (10 cents), and from there telegraphed my deplorable condition to my daughters in Shanghai.

So far, China appears to me a nation that cannot possibly become more alert than it is at present, for of the five different countries I have seen, and whose people I have had time to study, I must confess, I never came across one whose inhabitants are more wideawake.

For a foreigner, I consider that I am possessed of a fair amount of intelligence, and I own that never in the whole course of my life have I been "done" so frequently and with so much ease, as in China.

Moreover, so far as I can at present judge, China did not develop at all; she was apparently born fully grown, hair and teeth included. Chinese are reputed to be ignorant, and behind the times, yet, behind the scenes, pulling the strings, supplying the

motive power that moves 80 per cent. of the business of Shanghai, is John Chinaman, impressive, inscrutable, giving his word and keeping it, once given, though the heavens fall—unless he can see a way to get out of it without "losing face," but giving nothing else and and keeping everything else within reach.

A CHINESE DINNER.

A Chinese dinner is a very important affair and not many "foreigners" are invited to one. The "Head of the House" takes the head of the table, and the most important guest comes next, and so on in value of position. All the Chinaman's wives (who may number six), are seated at the bottom end of the table, and not allowed to enter into conversation. I attended a Chinese dinner given in my honour and the "Menu" was as follows:—

Course (1).

Shark's fins with crab sauce.
Pigeon's eggs stewed, with mushroom.
Sliced sea-slugs in chicken-broth with jam.

Course (2).

Wild duck with Shantung cabbage.
Fish fried in blubber.

Course (3).

Pork fried in rice flour.
Stewed Lily roots.
Chicken mashed with ham.
Stewed bamboo shoots.

Course (4).

Stewed shellfish.
Fried pheasant and pea-nuts.
Mushroom broth.

Course (5)

Sweetened duck.
Boned chicken fried in oil.
Mutton fried in pork fat.
Roasted Lotus root and Chinese pork.

Course (6).

Six or seven sweet puddings, all very highly coloured, but very tasteless, and every now and then the waiting "Boy" keeps pouring hot "Samshu," Chinese wine, into tiny silver cups, which he continually presses you to drink. They play a game, at which the loser must drink this cup of "Samshu," and this goes on until one or the other falls down on the floor, and not until one Chinaman does so is there any thought of breaking up this dinner party.

THE RACE COURSE.

On the race course the business man, who is conspicuous by his absence, is the bookmaker, more's the pity! If you can imagine a race course without a "ring" shouting that stirs the blood, the sudden hush when "they're off," witty men with white hats and beefy faces, ever ready with jokes and repartee, I candidly confess I cannot. The race meetings here are tame, and the absence of the bookies in the reason. One usually has to play evens, or odds, on to bet on the totalizator.

Most residents of Shanghai go away at the week-ends on house boats, to a place known as the hills, accompanied by a "chow" dog. These house boats are large, roomy affairs, their clumsiness being amply compensated

for by their comfort, and they are eminently suitable for the creek and river work for which they are constructed. They are propelled by sail and "yuloh."

This "yuloh" is a long oar, with about three feet of the handle bent down from the plane of the blade, which latter is feathered down from the centre ridge with one flange larger than the other.

At the point of fulcrum is a little socket made to receive a pin with a broad head, like the round end of a bolt, and to the inboard handle of the "yuloh" is attached a line about four feet six inches long which is fastened down to the deck.

The boatman or "Laodah" rests the "yuloh" on the pin, grasps the line with one hand and the yuloh with the other, gives a peculiar swing to his body, concentrating all his force on the rope which is now strained taut, and, presto! you are wriggling through the water at a surprising rate by means of a perfect system of applied mechanics that was in use probably before the time of Noah.

One has to be very careful in arranging these trips, as these creeks are very congested and one must not be surprised if the most deafening noises assail one's ears, and the bows of a native "Cargo boat" come through the window, and borne in on the evening breeze is the most searching, heartrending, and altogether astounding stench that one has ever been introduced to in any part of the world.

On one trip of ours this happened, and on looking for our "Chow" discovered he must have jumped on board the cargo boat, and missed his footing after getting on board.

We gingerly wrapped him in newspapers and threw him through the window on to the bank side, but the evil smelling beast, however, returned during the night and slept on my clothes. Until after dawn I got no sleep, and just as I was dozing off, another terrific crash came and threw me across the cabin.

"What thing Laodah?" I asked.
"Oh Maskee. Missy, have makee hit one small piece stone bridge!"

Export of Grain to Japan

Peking, Dec. 9.

The Ministry of Finance has instructed the Customs offices at Shanghai and Tientsin that the period of free export of grain to Japan will terminate on December 16.—Reuter.

The Tea Export Duty

Peking, Dec. 10.

It is understood that the Shuiwuchu has telegraphed to the Chairman of the Shanghai Tea Traders' Association saying that the remission of the export duty and the 50 per cent. reduction in likin dues on Chinese tea will be continued till the end of 1925.—Reuter.

OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

Unveiling of Scots Fusiliers War Memorial: Opening of Caird Hall: Some Good Stories of the Prince: The Late Mr. Bonar Law and the Unionist Party

From Our Own Correspondent.

Edinburgh, Oct. 31.

Many evidences have been given by the Prince of Wales that he is not forgetful of the strong ancestral and historical ties that bind him to the ancient realm of Scotland. On his unofficial visit to the Canadian Dominion, from which he has just returned, he took the name of "Baron Renfrew," one of the titles belonging to the High Stewards of Scotland, which has descended to their successors of the Royal House. And the first public appearance he has made since his return has been in Edinburgh, where he unveiled in St. Giles' Church a memorial tablet to the officers and men of the Royal Scots Fusiliers, of which the Prince is Honorary Colonel, who sacrificed their lives for King and Country in the Great War. It was interesting to note that during the service of dedication the Prince stood on the very spot which tradition says that Mary Queen of Scots occupied in a famous historical episode when John Knox fulminated from the pulpit immediately opposite. The congregation was largely composed of the relatives of the 6,000 fallen Fusiliers, and all present had poignant memories of "nights of anguish" and "dawns of tears." In mere numbers alone the sacrifices made by this single Scots regiment in the late war probably surpass the tale of lives lost in the last Jacobite Rising, which for generations past has been made the theme of much poetic romance and lamentation. And who can deny that the cause in which the Fusiliers fell was more clearly that of justice, freedom, and civilization, and therefore not less worthy to be sung and remembered, than that which drew into death and danger the followers of the "Prince Charming" of nearly two centuries ago?

The visit to Dundee was a "lounge jacket and bowler" affair, by the Prince's own desire, but it would have been difficult to equal the seven miles of enthusiasm with which he was greeted. The chief ceremony was the formal opening of the Caird Hall, the gift of one of the city's own sons. The late Sir James Caird gave the sum of £100,000, but the war period brought difficulties of finance, and Mrs. Marryat, a sister of Sir James then came forward and presented the city with an additional £75,000 for the completion of the project. The Caird Hall occupies the entire south frontage of what will in time be a square in the heart of the city, one of its oldest parts, about which sentiment has

grown up through the generations. Its site is the historic Greenmarket. Only second in interest was the Prince's visit to the Ashton Jute Works of the Messrs. Caird.

MEMORIES OF THE PRINCE.

The cheers of the children and smiles of the girls in the jute mill inspired "Wayfarer," a well-known Scottish writer, to recall the different times and places where he had seen the Prince, and these memories have been published in the Dundee newspaper. The following are worthy of something more than a local circulation:

Old Dalloch Smith, who feeds the King's winter-hungry deer in the Ballochbuie, by Balmoral, is standing at his little cottage, where the windows are covered with barbed wire, because the hungry stags will knock too hard on the windows with their hooves when it's getting near supper time. Round the corner of the cottage comes a lad in a suit of the Mackintosh hill tweed. "Don't you know me, Dalloch?" he says. Dalloch waits for a bit, and then—"Damned!" he roars, "but it's Prince David. I didna ken ye, Prince David." "Just my idea," says the Prince of Wales. "They'll not be able to distinguish me from the keepers on The Mackintosh's hills." And away he goes legging it down the track to Balmoral. Old Balloch slaps his knee, and "Aye, but he's a lad, he's a lad!" he says.

A sweating Highland subaltern is keeping a Stokes gun going in front of Ypres. The Bosches are strafing hard, and the old grey sergeant is cursing slowly and methodically. Round the corner of the traverse comes a slight, Khaki-clad lad. "Hot work here, isn't it?" he says with a smile, and everybody smiles. Soils Germans, everything is forgotten. A far greater thing is happening. The Prince of Youth is in the traverse. Away he goes, and the old sergeant mutters: "Aye, he's a lad!" "he's a lad!"—and the Lord knows why, but in this mess of dirt and death there is no room for anything but happiness.

The Royal and Ancient Clubhouse stands grey and old watching another medal day. A lad in a Fair Isle sweater comes down the steps and watches old Andra Kirkaldy tee up. Then he drives, and the half-hits his shot. Oh, thank goodness, he half-hits it! The smile that goes all over the world of St. Andrews is worth that half-miss. If he'd hit the ball 250 yards it would have been nothing. Old men curse when they miss a shot. Young laughs and laughs wholeheartedly. It is

youth's right! And old Andra Kirkaldy says:—"Aye, he's a good ane! He's a good ane!"

And one other story that a doctor told. To the weary wards of an hospital, where Death alone can give discharge, for soldiers suffering from incurable wounds are lying there, comes the Prince. "Have I seen all?" asks the Prince. He is told no. There is a case that is so terrible that no one can care to look at the man. "Take me there!" a Prince's authority speaks. And into that living tomb, where the remains of a man wait death, the Prince steps. The man cannot speak words, and sees nothing but darkness. The Prince kneels down and kisses the battered brow, and—there is a shaft of sunlight.

THE LATE MR. BONAR LAW.

So much must have been said and written about the late Mr. Bonar Law before this letter reaches you that little remains save to gather together a few details mostly of Scottish interest. First it must be said that he was a Glasgow man to the very bone and marrow. "Whatever may have been the accident of birth, or where I have lived since," Mr. Bonar Law told a Glasgow audience some years ago, "I have felt that Glasgow was more my home than any other place." And to one who, when he was travelling abroad, asked about his nationality he replied—"I was born in Canada. My father was of Scottish extraction, born in Ireland; my mother was Scottish; and I have lived most of my life in Glasgow."

Sir Robert Horne gives this reminiscence of Mr. Bonar Law:—I remember crossing Glasgow Bridge with him after a meeting which we had addressed together a few days before the election of 1900. At that time he was unknown outside of Glasgow, and he was fighting his first battle for entry into Parliament. Nobody had yet prophesied for him that he was going to have a great Parliamentary career. But by another of those disarming revelations of his ambition, he startled me by a confidence which at that time I little anticipated. He suddenly said:—"I am sure I am going to get in, but I am not going to content myself in Parliament with walking through division lobbies. If I do not get office within two years I shall give it up." At that period—when the settled tradition in the formation of Ministries was that office only went to people who had served a considerable time in Parliament, and when amongst the Conservative Party young men who had come up from the English Universities with a reputation and a traditional name were much more apt to be noticed than unknown men from the outside—I thought that Mr. Bonar Law was making a very bold claim; but, as it turned out, he was completely justified.

A large significance is suggest-

ed when Mr. Bonar Law succeeded Mr. Balfour as leader of the Conservative party. It is linked up with the Liberal leadership of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman; it is the opening of a new phase in Parliamentary life, in which the figures of Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George are also conspicuous. The old order of British statesmanship is studied in the records of patrician families; the new is dominated by middle-class citizens. One Glasgow citizen succeeded another in Parliamentary authority; as the Liberal leadership passed to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, after an uncertain interlude, from Mr. Gladstone, so did the supreme direction of Unionist policy pass from Mr. Balfour to Mr. Bonar Law. The two West of Scotland men had qualities of mind and character in common, as well as similar fortune in Parliamentary circumstance. It was his sincerity that brought Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman to secure anchorage. It was that attribute that furnished Mr. Bonar Law with his reserve of strength.

Lord Guthrie mentions in his diary, from which many extracts have just been published, an incident which strikingly reflects the feeling of London society. In conversation with Lord Guthrie, during the 1910 Parliament, Lord Herschell, the son of the Lord Chancellor, said "that the most revolutionary" thing in our time is to see the old aristocratic "Conservative party led by a plain, unlettered man of business like Mr. Bonar Law." The phrasing is narrow and academic. But the impression which struck Lord Guthrie has its particular significance. When Mr. Bonar Law became leader of the Unionist party it was just as if a minor player in a dramatic company were unexpectedly and suddenly cast for a star part.

A letter to the editor, heavily "leaded" and placed in a most prominent position, appears in the "Glasgow Herald." It is signed "A Mourner," and says—"The controversy that was provoked by the supercession of Mr. Asquith as Prime Minister has not yet been allayed. Foreseeing a lengthy duration of a dispute fed largely by an ignorance of the real truth, Mr. Bonar Law prepared an exhaustive minute of the entire transaction. This is committed to safe keeping, and he gave instructions that the document should not be made public for a certain number of years. I heard at the time from his own lips a lengthy summary of this important document, and all I need add is that when the text is disclosed it will be found to be a complete vindication of the steps that were taken to force a change in the head of the Ministry.

LOCAL OPTION.

It is notoriously difficult to write upon any aspect of the temperance question—indeed it is

dangerous—still something must be said about the report of the Commission of Scottish Churchmen on the working and effects of Prohibition in the United States and Canada, because during November and December a vote will be taken all over Scotland under the Temperance (Local Veto) Act. The report is to some extent one sided, the Commissioners are strong believers in the social virtues of temperance. This, however, makes all the more important the admission that in Canada and the United States "complete success can only attend Prohibition when the supplies of liquor from illicit and outside sources have been cut off. So long as the taste for it exists, so long as it can be imported, and so long as large profits are derived from this illicit trade, smuggling will continue, though probably in a diminishing degree. The Commissioners hold further that adequate enforcement will not be attained until the present generation of alcohol drinkers has passed away. Into the profounder human issues of legislation that seeks to eliminate from society that Dionysiac element which has played so large a part in history the Commissioners do not enter. Nor do they propose that Scotland should adopt Prohibition. What they are chiefly concerned to show is that progress in temperance legislation is a matter of evolution. Sudden changes are disastrous. There must be a phase of education, experiment and adjustment. We in Scotland are still in this educational stage: the coming election is only the second under Local Veto. Three options are placed before the voter—No Licence, No Change, and Limitation. An important section of the community say that these three options are not sufficient, that there should be a fourth. It is probable therefore that, whatever the result of the forthcoming local plebiscite, an attempt will be made by Bill in Parliament to introduce a fourth option, in favour of some form of reformed public-house

THE SOCIALIST MURDERS IN JAPAN

Nagasaki, Dec. 7.

A court martial to-day sentenced Captain Amakasu to 10 years' imprisonment and Sergeant Mori to three years' imprisonment for the murder of the prominent Socialist, Mr. Osugi, and his wife and nephew.—Reuter.

Tokio, Dec. 8.

The three gendarmes, who were on trial with Captain Amakasu and Sergeant Mori, were acquitted.

An appeal against the sentences may be entered within three days.

When sentence was pronounced on Amakasu and Mori one of the audience threw a log at the judge and another called out an epithet. Both were arrested.—Reuter.

JAPANESE BUDGET OUTLINED

Rigorous Retrenchment and Postponement of New Undertakings

Tokio, Dec. 7.

At a meeting at the Prime Minister's residence this morning, Count Inouye submitted an outline of the Budget for the coming fiscal year, including restoration expenditure of Y.597,000,000 over a period of six years.

Count Inouye said that the fire insurance subsidy of Y.180,000,000 would be submitted at an extra session as a supplemental bill.

The Government proposed to secure restoration funds by public loans.

The Minister said that the regular Budget was formulated upon a policy of the most rigorous retrenchment and postponement of new undertakings. Imperative additional expenditures would be submitted as supplemental estimates. No loans except for restorations would be floated during the coming fiscal year.

The totals of the 1924 Budget in round figures are:—

Revenue Y.1,299,000,000 inclusive of Y.84,000,000 in the extraordinary account.

Expenditure:—

Ordinary Y.1,028,000,000

Extraordinary Y.271,000,000

Ordinary expenditures include:—

Army Y.180,000,000

Navy Y.126,000,000

Foreign Affairs Y.17,000,000

Education Y.72,000,000

Extraordinary expenditures include:—

Army Y.13,500,000

Navy Y.112,000,000

Foreign Affairs Y.2,500,000

Education Y.8,500,000

The new Budget shows a decrease of Y.77,000,000 as compared with that of the current year.—Reuter.

JAPAN'S REVIVAL AND HER DEBT TO THE WORLD

Tokio, Dec. 13.

The Prime Minister to-day addressed the Houses of the Diet. He referred to the circumstances under which the Cabinet had been formed and outlined the steps taken by the Imperial Family and the Government to afford relief to the earthquake sufferers. He spoke feelingly on the debt of gratitude due by the entire Japanese nation to the nations abroad which hastened to Japan's relief, and urged the Japanese to endeavour to show their appreciation by exerting increased efforts to promote international friendship.

On the subject of restoration the Premier said that the Government desired primarily to aid the people to confine their expenditures within the limits of their resources. In this connexion, he said, bills would be submitted at the special session. General matters would be discussed at the opening of the regular session.—Reuter.

SHANGHAI NEWS

ADMIRAL PHELPS FETED

Entertained To Tiffin at Hotel
Parisien by the American
Legion

The full membership of the local post of the American Legion along with many of their friends gathered at the Hotel Parisien last Friday at tiffin in honour of Admiral W. W. Phelps, formerly commander of the U. S. Yangtze Patrol, who is leaving for home via Suez to-morrow. The function was the last public appearance of the Admiral before his departure and he was given a rousing send-off. The following representation of various organizations were included in the official guest list: Mr. O. S. Benbow Rowe, Major Hilton Johnson, Captain West, Mr. Hugh Martin, Mr. Reader Harris, Mr. V. D. K. Craudock, Captain Budgen and the Rev. W. Robbins, all of whom are members of the Committee of the British United Services Association; Com. Greene, British Resident Naval Officer, Com. Browning, Resident American Naval Officer, Coms. Cutts and Gates, U.S.N., Dr. W. T. Findley, Mr. Stirling Fessenden, Mr. E. S. Cunningham, U.S. Consul-General, Judge C. S. Lobingier and Brig-Gen. MacNaghten.

UNITY OF ACTION.

A half-tone war-time impression was created by the Parisien Hotel Orchestra, who supplied selections such as "Tipperary," "Over There," etc. Prior to introducing Admiral Phelps, Mr. C. S. Franklin, presiding, gave the toast "To the President of the United States." He referred to the speaker as one possessed of the highest naval ideals and stated that all Americans in the Orient found him as one "Who did not pass the buck."

Admiral Phelps referred to the unity of action which the British and Americans should have with reference to the position of the foreigner in China.

"We have many cherished incidents in the annals of the American Navy dating back even 100 years, some of war and some of peace, but all showing that there is a wealthy fund of brotherhood existing between officers of the navies and the navies themselves. In 1811, the British frigate *Macedonia* and the American frigate *Stephen Decatur* met in a harbour in Madeira. The captains were friends but there were war clouds lowering over the two nations. Each proud of his vessel, said that he could beat the other and a hat was wagered should they ever meet—one of those Beau Brummel hats. They did meet

and the fortunes of war favoured the American, who was tendered the sword of his friend. 'I don't want your sword, pay me my hat,' was his gruff answer. Shortly afterward the tide went against the American frigate *Chesapeake* and when the British commander found that Lawrence had been shot to death he had the body brought to his ship and later took it to Nova Scotia and buried it there with full ceremony."

HARMONIOUS RELATIONS.

Speaking of the harmonious relations between the representatives of the governments in the Orient, the Admiral mentioned the succour given by the Americans to a Briton in need in the Gulf of Pecheli, who answered a critic of his policy—the government is far away, blood is thicker than water: he then referred in glowing terms to the Admiral in Manila Bay who manoeuvred H.M. ships between the Americans and those of an unfriendly Power, who threatened.

"The fundamentally sound and equitably harmonious view which the two branches of the English speaking races maintain on world questions, must not be allowed to lapse, but should be reinforced and grounded on the welfare of democratic peoples, including those of China. All mankind should live under the fundamental laws of equity, having inalienable rights of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness."

With reference to the bonus question, the speaker deplored the actions of certain minorities who in the past have blocked the progress of government (political parties), stating that the Constitution provided against the tyranny of the majority, but that on certain occasions there had been a tyranny of the minority. "I am against the Legion 'bloc' in politics. Be moderate. In my opinion the bonus is wrong, we should guard against the menace of the measure. The Legion should be tolerant."

In closing his address, Admiral Phelps pointed out that the Legion should be a help to the Chinese, showing them the light toward true democratic government.

He expressed his sympathy with the action of the post, when Mr. Franklin explained that they had gone on record as being opposed to the bonus bill.

REPATRIATED RUSSIANS

Excellent Reports from Those
who have been Sent Home

At the meeting of the Refugee Advisory Committee held on Thursday afternoon in the Charity Organization Offices, it was reported that the 47 refugees already repatriated by the Com-

mittee are sending back very encouraging news, stating that all along the way their passage has been made easy and that they are very glad to be nearing home. The last letter received was posted at Omsk and reported very satisfactory progress. The Repatriation Sub-Committee is at work registering refugees who wish to return to their homes and it hopes to sent more in the spring, provided funds are available. In the meantime it is able to be of assistance in securing the necessary documents for those who can provide their own transportation.

FROM THE VASTY DEEP

Unconsidered Trifles on the
River Bed

Noticing from The Bund last week an endless procession of 50 or 60 small boats going up and down the river on the Pootung side opposite the end of Kiukiang Road one wondered whether this was joss pidgin or some special Chinese ceremony. On appealing for information to a waterfront authority it was explained that launches and small steam craft dump their ashes overboard in the Shanghai Harbour. By the action of the tides the ashes, lighter than the mud, are formed into four distinct ridges on the river bed and hence the procession.

Drag boats are manned by the Kompo people, just above the beggar class, who eke out a meagre living by working over these ridges with small mesh drag nets until the ashes are exhausted. They come from Tungchow, opposite to Chinkiang on the north bank of the Yangtze, a poverty-stricken region, and each boat is usually manned by the husband, wife and family. They work down with the tide, dragging these nets on the bottom until they are full, when they are emptied into the hold and they yuloh up against the tide and start afresh, repeating the operation until the boat is full. The ashes come up in small lumps and are washed and sold to tea houses inside the Native City and the Settlement, where they are mixed with small coal and used for fuel. These Kompo people are said not to be above snatching any loose articles from boats or wharves if they get a chance.

The four ridges of ashes are situated as follows: the lower one about a mile down from the upper end of the Blue Funnel Wharf, Pootung, the second in the middle of the river, for about three-quarters of a mile, starting opposite the Old Dock; the third by the ship buoys off Pootung Point and up and off Messrs. Mackenzie's godowns; and the fourth on the Pootung side of the river for about one mile outside the junk anchorage.

NEW FRENCH CLUB

Work of Building Inaugurated by Consul-General

In the presence of a numerous gathering at Verdun Gardens on Sunday, M. Wilden, the Consul-General for France, inaugurated the building of the new Cercle Sportif by cutting the first sod. Twenty years ago, as was recalled by M. Fano, President of the Club, the Cercle Sportif comprised a small group of about 100 residents. Since then, as we all know, the Club made great progress until now it is one of Shanghai's most popular social centres, and a great future for it seems assured. All concerned in the new, and ambitious, project, were congratulated by the President and M. Wilden, the latter of whom was presented with a charming silver souvenir of the occasion, and the toast of success to the Club was cordially drunk.

AN IMMEDIATE START.

With the foundations already marked out, work on the new building will begin immediately and it is anticipated that the Club will be ready for occupation in 16 months' time—18 months is the contract time. It will be an extensive and handsome building, capable of accommodating twice the present number of Club members, and will have very spacious grounds, the whole site allotted to the Club—bounded by Rue Paul Bourgeat, Rue Cardinal Mercier, and Avenue Joffre,—measuring some 72 mow of land. The western wing of the new building will be flanked by the swimming pool which will probably be ready for use during the coming summer.

The architects are Messrs. Léonard and Veyssière.

The Club is indebted to the French Municipal Council for valuable assistance. The Council has agreed to pay Tls. 170,000 for the existing Club premises, and has made valuable concessions in connexion with the new scheme, upon the one condition, a very proper one in the circumstances, that the essentially French character of the Club be continued as at present. The land on which the Club will be erected has been provided by the Council at Tls. 2,000 a mow, with a purely nominal rental for the remainder of the grounds to be used by the Club. It is estimated that the buildings will cost Tls. 400,000, and another Tls. 200,000 will be spent on equipment and furnishing.

THE THEATRE.

A feature of the scheme will be the joint enterprise of the Club and the Council. The Club has undertaken to build the theatre as soon as its financial position permits, the Council to contribute and pay over Tls. 50,000 immediately plans have been approved and the work has been put in hand. The Council has made

certain stipulations with regard to the design of the theatre, and we may expect eventually to see a first class building embodying the latest improvement in theatre construction, especially in the matters of acoustics, hygiene and security. The agreement in these various matters between the Club and the Council provides for dealing with the property in the event of dissolution of the Club, but this appears to be a very remote contingency. The Club most admirably meets a very real need, and we need anticipate nothing less than a very great success for the new enterprise.

RUSSIAN SHIPS AT WOOSUNG

A Reported Purchase by Dr. Sun Yat-sen

It is reported that great activity prevails among the Russian vessels at Woosung, one of which (the Mongovgay), it is said, coalled yesterday in preparation for an outward voyage. It is alleged that this vessel, aboard of which are believed to be some 2,000 rifles, 2,000,000 rounds of ammunition and between 25 and 30 machine guns, is bound for Canton, having been purchased by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, who has consented to pay Tls. 100,000 for the whole shipment, one half of which sum has been paid in advance. Dr. Sun is also said to have promised to take 300 of the Russian refugees into his army.

FUNERAL OF GENERAL HSU KUO-LIANG

The funeral of the late Gen. Hsu Kuo-liang took place on Sunday, the cortege leaving the Native Police Bureau inside the City at about one o'clock and passing through the Settlement at three o'clock. The arrangements were in accordance with those which appeared in the "North-China Daily News" yesterday with the addition of a number of theatrical plays and memorial services at different sections of the roads passed.

A large number of friends of the late Director of Police (conspicuous, however, by the absence of higher local officials) attended the funeral which took half an hour to pass given spots. There were but few mourners, arrangements having been made beforehand for the others to meet the cortege at the Shanghai-Nanking Railway station where the coffin was placed aboard a special train for transfer to Tientsin.

Mr. Wu Ting-chang will soon leave for America to represent the Chinese Bankers' Association at a meeting of the American Bankers' Convention.

DAME ADELAIDE ANDERSON

Hearty Welcome from Local Bodies

Dame Adelaide Anderson, formerly Lady Inspector of Factories in England, was entertained at dinner at the Navy Y.M.C.A. last Friday by the National Christian Council, at whose invitation she has come to Shanghai to study industrial conditions in China, and the National Councils of the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A.

Dr. John I. Lee, acting Secretary of the Y.M.C.A., Mrs. Mei, of the Y.W.C.A., Mr. W. J. Hawkings, Vice-President of the Rotary Club, having welcomed Dame Anderson, Miss Y. J. Fan, who presided, said their guest would doubtless find time later to enlighten them on the problems which they had to face. To-night she would offer a word of encouragement.

Dame Adelaide Anderson, who was received with cheers, referred to the warm welcome she had received everywhere on the journey eastwards by such societies as were represented there that night. The gathering, she felt, was a sign of the linking up of all the nations. Of the various countries she had passed through she thought that South Africa most of all had proved how difficulties could be overcome. They had in that country differences in colour, race and people, yet they had a wonderful unity in the organization of industry.

In Shanghai, she continued, she welcomed the help of voluntary societies and in her guests' kind offers of co-operation she was reminded of Home. Throughout her official life she had always had the backing of public opinion and support from societies just such as theirs. She then briefly traced the history of the industrial revolution in its various phases of development. Up till recently China was the only great country unaffected by the industrial revolution and it was to be hoped that the lessons learnt in Europe could be used towards establishing the welfare of the Chinese industrial population, whose welfare was vital to the world.

Dr. H. T. Hodgkin said that delicate international relations were involved in handling a problem like this one in Shanghai. It was significant that they were gathered there as an international group of voluntary workers. Since returning to the Settlement, he had discovered that many of the great employers desired with all their hearts to see conditions improved. Where and how to begin they scarcely knew industrial conditions into China and had got to see that they did not produce evil results alone in stead of good. Therefore we should put at China's disposal all that they had learnt, now she was forced to face these conditions.

SHOOTING OUTRAGE IN WEST HONGKOW

Search Party Fired on by Chinese in Motor-Car: Foreign Con- stable Wounded:

Another shooting outrage, illustrative of the utter contempt in which the forces of the law now are held by the gangs of robbers, arms runners and opium smugglers infesting the Settlement, occurred on Wednesday evening, as a consequence of which a foreign special constable is lying in hospital, dangerously wounded. Search parties have been very busy of late, patrolling all quarters of the Settlement, holding up all and sundry Chinese and searching them. The police have found this practice to be very successful, for it is never known beforehand where the parties will operate and many an innocent-looking Chinese, suddenly surprised by a challenge which has given him no chance of escape, has been found in possession of arms or loot, or has been recognized as a wanted man.

Shortly after dark on Wednesday, a party of special constable set out from West Hongkow Police Station and went on a search patrol in the neighbourhood of the Fokien Road bridge. A motor-car in which were several Chinese, on nearing the party, was stopped and a constable went forward to search the occupants, who, for all that was known, were perfectly harmless people. As the constable drew near, a revolver suddenly flashed and Special Constable Rebsamen dropped with bullets in his arm and thigh. A few other shots were fired without taking effect whilst the driver re-started the car and dashed away.

It all happened so quickly that the search party were unable to do much, but fortunately P. C. Collison, of the regular force, managed to seize one of the desperadoes, though the car was out of sight before they could accomplish anything more. The wounded man promptly was hurried off to St. Marie's Hospital, in the French Concession, where his wounds were treated. He is said to be in a serious condition, though the doctors are not without hope that he will survive. From information received, detectives from West Hongkow Police Station subsequently effected the arrest of another man who is believed to have been a member of the motor-car party.

A Chinese Killed

Mr. J. A. Rebsamen, acting Head Constable in the Police Reserves, who was hit by armed robbers in the sensational battle between the police and motor-car bandits in Fokien Road on Wednesday evening, was on Thursday progressing satisfactorily.

Two bullets entered his thigh. One was extracted shortly after he was admitted to the Hôpital Ste. Marie, but difficulty is being experienced in locating the second, which fractured the bone. It is anticipated that he will have to remain in hospital for some time, although he is out of danger. His hand was also injured in the mêlée.

This is the first casualty in the ranks of the Police Reserves since its formation during the war years. Mr. Rebsamen, who is a Swiss and manager of Messrs. E. Cambefort & Co., was one of the earliest to join and was recently appointed acting Head Constable. The question of compensation for special constables injured in the course of their duty was raised when the Reserves first began to take up their present active duties. It was suggested that the Council should start a sinking fund or buy insurance policies in respect of every member of the Reserves against any possible casualties of this kind.

Further details are now available concerning the affair. The robbers' car, the number of which has not yet been definitely ascertained, was travelling southward along Fokien Road. It stopped opposite an alleyway about 40 yards from the Fokien Road Bridge, facing the search party of regular and special constables, on the bridge. As P. C. Collison and Head Constable Rebsamen got up to the occupants of the stationary car two of them alighted. P. C. Collison and Head Constable Rebsamen were just in time to arrest their progress, and commenced searching operations. While being searched, Collison's man attempted to use a fully loaded Browning on him, but fortunately the weapon jammed. After quickly overpowering the robber, P. C. Collison handed him over to a Special and proceeded to the assistance of Head Constable Rebsamen, who was grappling with another of the robbers on the other side of the road. This robber fired two shots at Rebsamen, wounding him. The bandit then bolted northwards, closely pursued by Collison. He eventually gave up the pursuit. Later in the evening Det.-Sgt. Robertson arrested the fugitive in a house in Chapei. He found him hiding under a bed. On pulling him out the officer noticed that two of the shots fired by P. C. Collison during the chase had wounded him in the leg. The prisoner had to be sent to the police hospital, where he is still an inmate.

During the confusion of the firing the car appears to have turned round and vanished northwards. An unfortunate Chinese pedestrian who was in the vicinity of the battle was killed.

The unwounded robber was brought before Mr. Allman and Magistrate Li at the Mixed Court on Thursday jointly charged with the man in hospital and others of the gang not in custody,

with shooting and killing Zi Hung-ching, the coolie hit by a stray shot.

After the hearing of formal evidence of arrest by P. C. Collison and Det.-Sgt. Robertson, who effected the arrest of the wounded robber, the accused was remanded for a fortnight. An inquiry was also opened concerning the death of the man Zi Hung-ching. After evidence of identification, the inquest was adjourned.

ARMED ROBBERIES IN SHANGHAI

Chinese Merchants Calling for Drastic Punishment for the Criminals

Reference was made in the Chinese press on Wednesday to the recent seizure by robbers of Government bonds in Shanghai, and the number of other armed robberies which have occurred, and it was stated that merchants are getting anxious about the transport of money from place to place in the Settlement. The Chinese Bankers' Association and the Chamber of Commerce have in the circumstances forwarded the following suggestions to the Municipal Police for the increase of protection against robbery:—

Increase of the number of police on point duty.

Increase of the number of "troopers" to assist the police.

Increase of the number of street lights.

The arming of watchmen with rifles.

Improved organization for checking the smuggling of arms and ammunition.

A suggestion which seems likely to be much more effective than any of the above is that which has been forwarded to the Mixed Court by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. This body suggests that all armed robbers, of whatever description, be treated as bandits and *tufei*, and dealt with according to Chinese law, *viz.*, capital punishment. As this cannot be done within the Settlement, the Chamber suggests that armed robbers appearing before the court should all be handed over to the Arsenal authorities to be dealt with. This is done in some cases, but the Chamber asks that it be done in every instance, instead of sending the culprits to prison for a few months or even years. The proposal appears to be a sound one. Only the most severe punishment is likely to put an end to the extensive activities of the armed robber, who does not scruple to take life when opposition is offered.

News has been received in Shanghai to the effect that the Peking Gardarmarie has decided to establish a Department of Women Police.

WEDDINGS

Levy—Elias

The Ohel-Rachel Synagogue was the scene of a very picturesque wedding on Sunday afternoon when Miss Vera Elias, the daughter of Mr. R. H. Elias, became the bride of Mr. S. E. Levy, the son of the late Mr. E. S. Levy and Mrs. Levy. The ceremony was solemnized by Rabbi Hirsch and Mr. N. S. Levy. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in one of Jenny's most effective creations, an irony satin crepe, embroidered in silver and crystal beads, with a veil of voile de soie embroidered which fell from the shoulder in two points. The long tulle veil was caught into a cap of voile de soie fastened on both sides with orange blossoms, and the bridal bouquet was of white roses.

The bridesmaid, Miss Annie Gensburger, wore an early Victorian gown of gold lace, with cap of the same material, and carried yellow roses. Mrs. Ellis Hayim, the sister of the bride, wore a handsome Lanvin gown of white marocain embroidered in white crystal and jet beads and tubes with streamers of cerise velvet falling from the shoulders. With this a large black hat was worn. The page boys were Masters Dickie and Georgie Hayim, nephews of the bride, and Master Hayim Abraham.

The bridegroom was attended by Mr. S. David as best man and Messrs. Lawrence Kadoorie, E. Gensburger, E. Ezra and L. Saphiere acted as ushers. The synagogue was elaborately decorated for the occasion as was also "Irene Lodge," the bride's home, where the reception took place, attended by many friends. Mr. G. S. Mess. H. M. Consul, acted as toast master. The bride's going away dress was a becoming costume of brown, with a large picture hat. Mr. and Mrs. Levy will take a trip to Hankow for their honeymoon.

Klingenberg — Lund

A wedding of interest to many Shanghai residents and especially to the Scandinavian community was celebrated on Tuesday afternoon at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Ibsen-Sorensen, 64 Avenue du Roi Albert, when Miss Agnete Lund, of Fredericia, Denmark, became the bride of Mr. Halfdan F. S. Klingenberg, of Trondheim, Norway, and now of Messrs. A. P. Villa Bros. of Shanghai, Ltd. The service, performed according to the rites of the Norwegian Church, was solemnized by the Reverend K. L. Reichelt of Nanking. The bride was given away by Mr. J. Ibsen-Sorensen and her bridesmaids were Miss Irene Brandtmar and Miss Lilian Ibsen-Sorensen. The groom was attended by Mr. N. Aall, the Norwegian Consul-General, Mr. H. S. Kierkegaard of the Directorate-General of Posts, Peking,

and Mr. F. T. Skov of the Standard Oil Company. The reception was attended by many friends of the Scandinavian, British and American communities, among them being the bridegroom's sister, Mrs. H. S. Kierkegaard, of Peking.

TROUBLE CAUSED BY
"INDEPENDENT NAVY"Patrol Boat Fired On And
Three Men Killed

The "Independent Navy" moored off the Chinese Bund have been giving trouble again. On Friday night the captain, and three members of the crew of the Kiangsu Salt Smuggling Prevention Force patrol boat An Dau were killed, when the cruiser Haichow fired on the craft.

It appears that the An Dau had been ordered to Sungkiang. She left Shanghai at about 10 p.m. on Friday night. As she approached the Haichow the latter warned her to stop, which order was complied with. Just as she had signalled her intention to heave to, the firing began. In addition to the three fatal casualties mentioned, some half-dozen members of the crew were wounded. Two of these are inmates of the Red Cross Hospital, Avenue Haig. Their condition is stated to be serious.

After the incident, according to a Chinese press story, the commander of the man-of-war despatched a subordinate officer to the little vessel "to apologize." The firing, he said, had been accidental.

DAME ADELAIDE ANDERSON AT B. W. A.

Reception by Members

A delightful reception was tendered to Dame Adelaide Anderson on Monday afternoon by the British Women's Association at Headquarters, when the members turned out in a large number to avail themselves of the opportunity of meeting this distinguished visitor who was one of the first to advance England's factory reforms and who is one of the foremost authorities upon this subject. The guests were presented to Dame Adelaide by the acting Chairman, Mrs. O. M. Green, and by the acting Vice-Chairman, Mrs. A. C. Clear, in the reading room, which had been cleared for the occasion and was beautifully decorated with ferns and dwarf orange trees in fruit. Palms and foliage plants with glowing poinsettias were banked in the hall and in the tea room where tea was served by the Entertainment Committee.

It was found necessary at the last moment to transfer the showing of the movie films to the Olympic Theatre, but as usual the B.W.A. was more than equal to an emergency and a fleet of motors conveyed guests from headquarters to the theatre where several delightful repeat programmes were run off, all well attended. The "Snob Pollard" comedy and "Felix of the Bone Age" delighted everybody, adults as well as the many children present, but the main interest centred in the Fayre films which were excellent and reproduced the pageantry of the Fayre and its distinguished guests in vivid fashion.

PEPS

Speedily Banish Coughs, Colds & Chills.

Peps are the powerful healing and germicidal medicine which you *breathe* from pleasant dissolving tablets straight into the chest and lungs.

Peps soothe and purify the delicate air-passages; they allay soreness and inflammation, and soon banish the most obstinate cough, cold or chill. Peps are a boon to sufferers from bronchitis, asthma and other chest weakness and they safeguard the throat against disease.

The Breatheable Remedy
for THROAT & CHEST

I.P. 239.
Agents: Wakefield & Co. (China), Ltd., S. Y. Sheng Building, Szechuen Road, Shanghai.

OBITUARY

Mr. Carl Albers

The death occurred suddenly at sea on Friday of Mr. Carl Albers, chief officer of the C.M.S.N. str. Yushun. His ship reached port on Saturday, when the inquest was opened by H.M. Coroner. For some years past the deceased officer had been suffering from heart failure, and it is presumed he succumbed to syncope.

The late Mr. Albers was 60 years of age. He was a native of Denmark, but some years ago he became a naturalized British subject. He had spent a number of years in various ships on the coast prior to joining the China Merchants' S.N. Co. in 1919. He was recognized as a most capable officer and was exceedingly popular amongst his colleagues.

A TALE OF THE SEA

No Further News of Abandoned Shanghai Schooner

A good deal of curiosity was aroused by the brief report we published on Thursday, stating that the five-masted schooner Tseng Tai, apparently abandoned and flying the American ensign reversed, was passed by the Chinese str. Hai Fou between Amoy and Foochow on the morning of the 11th instant. As the signal was an urgent call for assistance, it appears somewhat strange that the Chinese vessel did not go over to the schooner, which was at anchor.

Inquiries made on Thursday failed to yield any information other than that already published, which was telegraphed to Shanghai by the Commissioner of Customs at Foochow.

The schooner was formerly known as the Levi Ostender, and came from Pugit Sound some time ago, being purchased here by the Tseng Tai Lumber Company, of Nantao, and put on the lumber trade between Shanghai and Foochow. She has a gross tonnage of 1,553 tons, and is a vessel of good condition. There are two foreign members of the crew, Captain T. Troupe, the master, and A. Mortensen, first mate. Further information will be awaited with interest, it being strange, to say the least, that these urgent signals should have been displayed on a vessel lying safely and quietly at anchor. The Hai Fou which passed her is a Chinese vessel not registered at Shanghai.

The following letter on the subject reached us on Thursday.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Stowed away, almost out of sight, in the "From Day to Day" column of to-day's issue is the news that the schooner Tseng Tai, at anchor, flying the most urgent of all flag signals, N.C., meaning "In

distress, want immediate assistance," was passed by the Chinese steamer Hai Fou who, apparently, made no attempt to render assistance. Presumably she is one of those Chinese horrors where the Captain is dominated by the comprador and is under his orders.

Strange stories have been going along the water front of the doings of the crew of this schooner since she went under the Chinese flag, of insubordination and refusing duty.

I am, etc.,

SKIPPER.

What would be at least as interesting would be to know why the schooner's signals were disregarded.

MARSHAL TUAN NOT COMING SOUTH

Anfu Leader Said to be Changing Plans: Urged by Little Hsu not to Continue Fighting

We understand from a prominent Chinese gentleman who has just returned from Tientsin where he has been in very close touch with the political situation that Marshal Tuan Chi-jui, the Anfu leader, who has for the past two years been a resident in the Japanese Concession of Tientsin, has decided definitely not to come to Shanghai. It will be remembered that efforts were being made to bring him to Shanghai or Hangchow to lead the anti-Chihli forces as Commander-in-Chief. Report had it that he was seriously considering whether he should come or not. Indeed, one report stated that he had already left Tientsin and was expected to arrive in port to-day.

Our informant states that the reason why Marshal Tuan has decided not to come was because of the influence of his son, Chen-liang, and Gen. Hsu Shu-tseng (Little Hsu), who lead what is known as the Anfu peace party. The section of the Anfu party known as the war party which urges Marshal Tuan to come consists of Gen. Wu Kuang-shin (former High Military Inspecting Commissioner of the Upper Yangtze, who is a brother-in-law of Marshal Tuan), Mr. Tseng Yu-chen (former Anfu Minister of Finance), Gen. Lu Shao-chia (son of Gen. Lu Yung-hsiang, Director-General for the Reorganization of Military Affairs in Chékiang), and Mr. Yu Tseng (another prominent Anfu refugee). Anyhow, states our informant, the peace party has proved itself more powerful, and, as a result of their advice, Marshal Tuan has come to understand that the war party simply wish to use his banner for their own selfish ends, and that they wish to unite the provinces and oppose the Chihli party simply in order that they may be reinstated. They did not consider seriously, states our infor-

mant, whether such a venture with Marshal Tuan at its head would be successful or not, and merely tried to make Tuan a catspaw. This being the case, Marshal Tuan has decided not to come to Shanghai.

Marshal Tuan's son, Chen-liang, is a sworn student of Gen. Hsu Shu-tseng (Little Hsu) and has of late been giving him his utmost support in pressing his father to remain in Tientsin, as they both realize that, should Marshal Tuan come to Shanghai and should fighting break out in this vicinity, they will meet opposition on the part of both Chinese and foreigners alike.

SWIFTLY HEALS CUTS, BURNS, SCALDS, ETC.

Zam-Buk Ends Smarting and Suppuration and Grows New Skin

In cuts, burns, scalds and all similar injuries, the only way to safety lies in prompt use of Zam-Buk. This quickly ends smarting pain, soreness and all evidence of inflammation. Where skin is blistered or broken, Zam-Buk acts as a perfect antiseptic shield, thus ensuring quick, clean healing without risk of troublesome complications.

Zam-Buk is Nature's ideal healing balm made from valuable curative extracts. It is absolutely pure and guaranteed free from the rapid animal fats and poisonous minerals found in artificial "dressings" and ointments.

Dr. Satsuanura, Ganguly, L.M.S., late medical Officer, Medical Department, writing from 69 Summer St., Calcutta, says:—"I was called in to a very bad case of ulceration following scalds. The injuries were so severe as to extend over the whole surface of the right forearm, and they were emitting a very foul smell and suppurating profusely."

"As the patient had been dressing her arm with special oils prescribed by her physician, I first had the wound thoroughly cleansed, then made immediate and liberal application of Zam-Buk. The wounds had been treated with this balm for not more than four days, when, to my complete satisfaction, I found the exudation of pus completely stopped and the flesh presenting a complete healthy surface. Granulation took place in six days and the Zam-Buk applications were continued until complete healing was attained. The fact that Zam-Buk possesses most unusual antiseptic, absorbent and skin-growing properties cannot be made too widely known."

For insect bites, cuts, burns, scalds, sore feet, etc., Zam-Buk is the soothing, speedy remedy. It quickly uproots and cures wet or dry eczema, impetigo itch, tetter, prickly heat, ringworm, scalp disease, heat sores, abscesses, ulcers and poisoned wounds. Obtainable in handy size boxes of medicine dealers everywhere or Agents: Wakefield & Co. (China), Ltd., S. Y. Sheng Building, Shanghai. Never be without a box!

CORRESPONDENCE

ROBBERIES FROM THE PERSON.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In welcoming the new Municipal Notification No. 3206, re "Thefts and Robberies from the Person," one is only voicing the very general approval, especially in business circles, of the report of the Commissioner of Police appearing in the Municipal Gazette of December 6, containing the recommendation of the issue of a Municipal Notification in Chinese bearing on the necessity of precaution in conveyance of valuables through the Settlement, on the person or in the custody of irresponsible persons.

The prompt action of the Council in issuing the notification proves their realization of need for the warning, and appreciation of the efficiency of the measures proposed for adoption by those concerned in the safe conveyance of valuables through the Settlement. Notification No. 3206 is certain to influence in the direction of caution a large section of the business community, and in issuing it the Council has done its part. The difficulty will be to get those entrusted with conveyance of valuables (escorted or otherwise) to do their part.

The Notification will not greatly affect the would-be robbers in spite of it. They will, for a time at least persist in their nefarious efforts even almost under the dread eye of the law, and many of the intended victims will still be too terrified to "cry out boldly" in the presence of firearms, but give them a weapon of defence in the shape of a police whistle in their hand when on such precarious errands and I venture to say there would be few who would not use it effectually enough to bring the Police speedily to the rescue.

The noise of even many police whistles all blowing at one time, if that ever happened, would add but little to the incessant blowing of our motor horns.

I am, etc.,

GEORGE MATHESON.

Shanghai, Dec. 6, 1923.

THE LEGEND OF ABRAHAM.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Mr. D. S. Dady Burjor has my deep sympathy. I hasten to assure him and the local Parsee community, amongst whom I have several friends, that I had not the slightest idea of casting any reflexion on the principles of their faith, when I referred to the legend in my last letter. No one certainly doubts that Parsees "believe in one Supreme God" and that "fire-worship" which forms part of their ritual are mere "symbols" or "outward manifestation of

the Deity." It is, however, a pity your correspondent has engendered much unnecessary heat in his letter. We have no quarrel with each other. For centuries we have lived in perfect peace and harmony together and there is no reason why a perfectly innocent legend, referred to in my letter, should upset the equilibrium of your correspondent. Instead of resenting it, he should realize its beauty and its great moral effect upon mankind. None desires more than the Jews to withdraw the charge that the Parsees are worshippers of fire, instead of worshippers of the One Supreme God. The keynote of my letter was a plea for toleration, and not the perpetuation of strife and discord between man and man.

I am, etc.,

MENTOR.

P. S. "Paul's" letter in your to-day's issue requires a special rejoinder, and I hope with your permission, to reply to it in my next.

Shanghai, Dec. 7, 1923.

PETROL PUMPS IN CHINA.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Much has been written in the "North-China Daily News" about cotton in China but there is also need for much reform in the control of weights and measures in this country.

According to the latest papers from Home the scandal of short measure given by the nice looking pumps on the kerbstones has become almost a national question.

Here, in the large cities of China I venture to state that the inaccuracy of the measure given by the Petrol pumps is also pronounced; how much more so in view of the fact that we are liable to receive either the American or the Imperial gallon?

Should the American unit be the measure given, then the shame of it would really be disgraceful, because the same price is certainly charged for both.

Another aspect is the fact that no control is made over a dealer who cares to be sufficiently dishonest as to mix paraffin with petrol in his underground tank.

In the Home papers it has been proved after investigation that in nearly 80 per cent. of the machines referred to, short measure was given; and in many instances the error was as high as one pint per gallon.

It is not the writer's idea to blame the big companies who give the pumps to the dealers—nor does he desire to insinuate that all dealers are so dishonest as to mix their gasoline or deliberately give short measure, but he does blame the system which permits such possibilities.

There is absolutely no doubt that the marketing companies and all reliable dealers would welcome

a periodical test by a competent Municipal Inspector.

To suggest a reversion to the old petrol cans would be absurd because the pumps are a great convenience to all motorists; but the fact that they are such a convenience is no reason why they should escape Municipal control in the manner suggested.

I am, etc.,

CONTROL.

Tsinanfu, Dec. 5, 1923.

THE ELECTION BAROMETER.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Under the heading of Notes and Comments in your valuable issue of the 7th instant you refer to your previous remarks made at about the time of the commencement of the General Election in Great Britain, that the fluctuations in sterling are the best possible indication of the trend of events; you also state that the New York—London cross rate is in favour of the latter market and may be taken as a strong indication of a Conservative victory according to the opinion prevailing in well informed financial circles.

I venture to suggest that the proposal of Great Britain to evade her present difficulties by inflating sterling is the result of a carefully thought out plan of an insidious character.

The assumption of an Economic Committee set up to examine this scheme is based primarily upon the restriction of credit as being the principal factor in the appealing unemployment epidemic at Home, and this Committee has strongly attempted to prove its findings by an erroneous examination of the Board of Trade's statistical information relating to the rise and fall of trade during certain periods of time; and it has recommended, subject to the final approval of the Treasury, that the Government ought:—

(A) Maintain domestic prices as indicated by the present index number of their present level in the Board of Trade returns, and not revert to the pre-war basis.

(B) That in order to accomplish this object, further deflation should be stopped and the work of the last six months reversed by an increase in legal tender.

(C) That steps be enforced to secure a direct relation between the supply of credit and prices.

Taking the index of the Board of Trade as a basis, the Treasury should arrange with the Bank of England that the bank rate be lowered a half per cent. for every fall of ten points in the cost of living, and *vice versa*; the theoretical idea being that this would create the necessary confidence to stabilize market prices.

Out of the increase of legal tender industrialists would,

according to the proposals made, receive monetary advances, on the recommendation of certain Development Boards which the Government would have to create, for the purpose of undertaking approved schemes such as would relieve the weight of unemployment: but, for the complete working of such a scheme it would be necessary to adopt a system of deflected tariffs within the Empire.

£100,000,000 in notes is the contemplated amount required of which £25,000,000 will be created and issued immediately the scheme is adopted.

The adoption of the proposed Preferential Tariffs by Great Britain sufficiently high enough to exclude alien products in favour of Empire goods would undoubtedly give the Mother Country a monopoly in the Empire markets—and all built up on a paper currency!

Naturally, a paper system of credit is a fallacy and a dangerous method on which to expect the dependence of a country's prosperity, and the adoption of such a scheme would be so detrimental as eventually to destroy the wonderful credit hitherto enjoyed by Great Britain: it is deplorable that the British authorities even contemplate such a method: once started the probability is that such increases of legal tender would never cease, and we should all be faced with industrial disaster of a magnitude far beyond our conception.

There is absolutely no guarantee that the index figures of the Board of Trade can be dealt with in a manner appreciably to reduce unemployment as the other factors which have been in operation for the past two years would still prevail, and as I have already stated the hypothesis of the unemployment causes is very theoretical, and only lunatics would dare to substitute a mechanical working of our credit system contrary to all established banking principles as a result of the erroneous examination of the Board of Trade figures: undoubtedly, a small group of men such as those who generally manage to acquire the influence of certain favoured political circles would control the scheme and might, for their own gain, send the country into such dire depths of financial ruin from which we never could retrieve our lost position, we could never turn back.

The chief danger is the lack of any substantial guarantee, even supposing the scheme is sound and correct, that the British Government could ever counteract pressure brought to bear from other quarters and limit this false and dangerous over-issue of paper.

It is easy to cancel domestic indebtedness by the issue of a paper currency but the lesson of the ruination of so many other European countries ought to be a sufficient inducement and a strong enough warning to make the authorities consider the proposals a

second time before finally adopting them.

Empire development would for ever be destroyed and the fibres which keep our wonderful Empire so upright would be so shattered and damaged that we should no longer be able to enjoy the economic concerns for Empire benefit: autonomous tariffs are impossible and I do not care to dwell upon prohibitive duties upon all kinds of Foodstuffs, etc.

Powerful industrialists backed up by State aid and certain influential politicians would rule, and the middle and working classes would be financially destroyed.

British investments in America are valued by experts at several millions of pounds sterling and are in the form of securities, in many instances, bearing a fixed interest payable in pounds.

Great Britain has arranged to clear her war indebtedness to America in gold and yet the Government's Economic Committee seems to have lost sight of this fact and has wilfully recommended a scheme which will enable America to pay interest to British investors in pounds which may have only a purchasing power of 10 shillings or even five shillings and less according to the whim of the incompetent politician controllers who will be led by the nose and directed to take the Board of Trade index figures as the true indicator.

One can imagine a run on the banks and the withdrawal of large funds and investments placed in London as well as the continuous selling of all Government securities because of the forced deflation of pounds.

The Party concerned in this scheme must give an assurance that such manipulations will not be countenanced, or, contrary to your reading of the signs of exchange rates it will never be returned to power—as a Conservative Party.

Confidence in Great Britain's finance has already been weakened as a result of the announcement of these absurd schemes to send down sterling, and already the fall of exchange on New York has caused serious alarm: each drop of a point in the rate sends up the price of such commodities as grain and cotton on which the people are dependent for supplies from without the Dominions: and this hits the poor people.

As regards alleviating unemployment by depreciating our currency there can only be one way to secure the happiness of the people by increased employment and that is by bringing down the costs of production.

Please do not think I am a member of any political party. On the contrary I am not, but I do think your idea of construing the deflation of sterling on New York as the coming of a Conservative Government is erroneous: is not it more feasible that the well informed financial circles you refer to are in fear of such a Government having for its policy

Tariff Protection and an idea of monkeying about with exchange, hence the fall of rates on America?

I am, etc.,

V. A.

Shanghai, Dec. 10, 1923.

THE MISSIONARY'S HONOUR.

To the Editor of the "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Will you kindly publish the following correction? Frequent reference has occurred in the "North-China Daily News" to the following statement occurring in an editorial reprinted in the "Chinese Recorder" of September, 1923. This editorial was originally published in the "Chinese Christian Advocate." The editorial referred to the sermon of "A Prominent Evangelist" given in Shanghai about that time, who spoke of the inadequacy of the spiritual life of the Church of his denomination in West China. He was then quoted as saying, "He attributed this lack of spiritual life to the unrest and disorder which occurs in West China almost every year, causing the missionaries to flee from their stations when rumour of war is thick in the air and returning when everything is quieted down."

It has taken me some time to get in touch with the Chinese preacher to whom the above statement was attributed. I have, at last, however, had a conversation with him and he assures me that he has no recollection whatever of making such a statement, and does not believe it is true any way. He thinks that something he said must have been misunderstood. This correction should have been published before, but I only succeeded in securing it yesterday.

I am, etc.,

FRANK RAWLINSON.

Shanghai, Dec. 12, 1923.

BOXING THE COMPASS AT MAJONG.

To the Editor of the "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The following simple mnemonic may be found useful by those who have any difficulty in remembering the Chinese sequence of the points of the compass in this game, which are indicated in proper order from right to left by the first, third, fifth and seventh letters in the words East Wind.

I am, etc.,

GOOFY.

Shanghai, Dec. 13, 1923.

Miss Harriet Barket, Assistant to the Director of the Peking Union Medical College, is spending a few months in Chincheza, Ningpo, before leaving for England. Miss Barket went on furlough last month.

COMPANY MEETING

SAMAGAGA RUBBER ESTATES LD.,

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Samagaga Rubber Estate, Ltd., was held on Tuesday in the offices of Messrs. Scott, Harding, Ltd., at 35 Peking Road, at which 103,150 shares were represented. Mr. Leslie J. Gubitt presided supported by Mr. G. Grayrigge.

The Chairman said:

Gentlemen, with your permission I will take the report and accounts as read on the assumption that you have made yourselves familiar with all the essential particulars during the seven days they have been in your hands.

The past year is unique in the annals of the rubber plantation industry, the long talked of and much debated restriction legislation having come into force on November 1, 1922. For the first six months the practical effect on the export was insignificant but with experience has come improvement in the regulations and in the method of their application and I think it is generally admitted that the introduction of restriction has justified the faith of its promoters by enabling plantation companies to pay their way and in many cases to earn a moderate dividend once more.

The report of your Directors is in the usual form but as the financial period represents one month on full tapping, eight months restriction at 60 per cent. of standard production and three months restriction at 65 per cent. standard production it will be seen that any comparison of statistics with previous years is of doubtful value.

Weeding shows a decrease but is still a heavy item and will probably always continue to be so as at certain periods of the year, particularly October to December, the rainfall is very heavy, the fields not infrequently becoming flooded and effective weeding cannot be resumed until the soil has again become fairly dry. After flooding the flow of latex is always greatly improved but unfortunately this is of no advantage while restricted output is in force.

During the period under review you will have noticed that alternate daily tapping was gradually introduced and the whole estate was put on to this system at the opening of the current year on October 1, thus enabling a saving to be made in the number of tappers and in the cost of supervision.

The estimates for the year are based on an output of 240,000 lb. against 251,000 lb. last year, being 60 per cent. of the standard production but of course this figure is subject to increase in the event of the percentage of standard production being raised as was the case last year for three months.

The manager's new bungalow was completed and occupied early in August and the extensions of the factory buildings have been carried out.

I visited the estate at the end of March and found everything going on satisfactorily but spectacularly there was not much to see as the wintering season was on, tapping had been entirely discontinued and a large portion of the labour had gone as usual for the paddy harvest. The building of the new bungalow had been begun but was not sufficiently

advanced to enable me to form any opinion as to what it would be like when finished. I have recently received photographs from which it appears that we have got a very attractive and comfortable bungalow which should serve for many years. It was designed by the manager to whom the thanks of the Company are due for his careful supervision during erection.

The assistant who left at the conclusion of his agreement at the end of September was given six months' full pay. This will not entail any additional expense on the company during the current year as the manager is willing to carry on with non-European conductors who have been with the company for several years and are quite reliable. This temporary reduction in the European staff has been made possible by the simplification of supervision consequent upon the adoption of alternate daily tapping.

Turning now to the accounts, the cost of production was Tls. 63,519.54 against Tls. 60,164.41 while the net proceeds of rubber, coconuts and copra was Tls. 95,298.31 against Tls. 69,646.54 resulting in a profit in working account of Tls. 31,778.77 against Tls. 9,482.15.

Fixed assets have been depreciated Tls. 1,624.42 which brings their book value down to 60 per cent. of the manager's valuation and development account has been credited with Tls. 3,000 making the amount in the balance sheet Tls. 150,000 and leaving a net profit for the year of Tls. 28,629.77 which, with the balance brought forward from the previous year, gives a total of Tls. 36,794.46 at the disposal of this meeting. The recommendation of your directors, embodied in a resolution to be proposed later is that a dividend of 5 per cent. be declared absorbing Tls. 20,550, that Tls. 7,000 be placed to reserve, bringing it up to Tls. 20,000, and that the balance of Tls. 8,744.46 be carried forward to the new account.

The following resolutions were carried:—

That the report and accounts for the year ended September 30, 1923 as presented be accepted and passed—proposed by Mr. Leslie J. Gubitt, seconded by Mr. G. Grayrigge.

That a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. on the paid up capital of the company be declared for the year ended September 30, 1923 payable on December 27, 1923 to shareholders on the register on December 11, 1923—proposed by Mr. Leslie J. Gubitt, seconded by Mr. G. Grayrigge.

That the sum of Tls. 7,000 be placed to reserve and the sum of Tls. 8,744.46 be carried forward to the new account—proposed by Mr. Leslie J. Gubitt, seconded by Mr. G. Grayrigge.

That Mr. G. Grayrigge be re-elected a director of the company—proposed by Mr. Leslie J. Gubitt, seconded by Mr. Thomas Cock.

That Messrs. G. H. and N. Thomson be re-elected auditors to the company for the current financial year at a remuneration of Tls. 150—proposed by Mr. Thomas Cock, seconded by Mr. E. S. Elliston.

Dr. Way-ling New, superintendent of the Shanghai Red Cross Society, and Dr. B. Y. Wong, chief medical officer of the Red Cross Society of China, have been invited to represent this country at the World's Convention of Red Cross Societies to be held in Paris next February.

SPORT

PAPER HUNT CLUB

The Third Hunt

The third hunt of the season was laid on Saturday afternoon by Messrs. E. S. Benbow Rowe and R. Moon, the latter being the winner of the previous Saturday's event. The meet was at Springfield, and, punctually at 3 p.m., the riders assembled there were despatched by the Master. The flags were erected. A close finish was witnessed between Mr. M. O. Springfield, on Harry M. and Mr. H. G. Robinson, on Social Union, but Mr. Springfield secured the victory.

The card read as follows:—

1. M. O. Springfield on Harry M., late Goonfield.
2. H. G. Robinson on Social Union.
3. J. C. Grieg on Misty Light.
4. A. B. Thompson on Silver Wing.
5. J. H. Liddell on Seacroft.
6. C. F. Taylor on The Copper Bird.

THE LADIES' HUNT.

The Ladies' Hunt is always one of the most interesting events of the season in the riding world and a small but animated group assembled at the start at London Town on Sunday at 3 p.m.

Eight ladies in all elected to compete and at a little after the hour appointed, they were sent off by Mr. Benbow Rowe, and told to follow blue and white paper.

The ladies had an excellent run, starting from London Town and passing over Zigzag Jump, the Blue Lagoon, Eureka Passage, Discovery Inlet, Rose Wade, Nimrod Sound, Wobbly Creek, Jim's Joys, Serpentine, Via Media, and a finish at Benbow's Dry Cut.

The finish was hotly contested by Miss Billie Coutts, riding astride, and Mrs. Hickling, riding side saddle. Mrs. Hickling won, but both receive cups, as there is one for each form of riding. The third lady was Miss Vera McBain and Mrs. J. K. Brand was fourth.

GOLF

Shanghai Ladies Golf Club

The results of the Shanghai Ladies Golf Club's competitions for the month of November are as follows:—

Season Medal:—(Kiangwan) Mrs. J. S. Cooper 83-12=71.

Sprat Competition:—(Kiangwan) (1) Mrs. Ryde 17 sprats; (2) Mrs. Enticknap 16 sprats.

Bogey Competition:—(Kiangwan) Was tied for between Mrs. Enticknap and Mrs. Ryde, both 5 down. The tie was eventually won by Mrs. Enticknap 6 down.

The Club Foursomes (Kiangwan—Mrs. J. S. Cooper and Mrs. Taylor.

Club Cup.—(Shanghai) There was no competition for this owing to insufficient entries.

Shanghai Ladies' Golf Club Championship

The final round of the championship of the Shanghai Ladies' Golf Club was played at Kiangwan on Monday under perfect weather conditions. The finalists were Mrs. Tweedie Stodart and Mrs. J. S. S. Cooper, and play was over 36 holes. The result was a win for Mrs. Cooper by 5 up and 4 to play.

FOOTBALL

Saturday's Results

INTERPORT TRIAL

Whites 5, Colours 0.

FIRST LEAGUE

No games.

SECOND LEAGUE

S.F.C. 8, Customs 0.

St. Xavier's 4, Police 0.

Jewish 3, Navy 1.

Lusitano 5, Maritime Co. 2.

Hanbury School 8, Public School 1.

A One-Sided Interport Trial

The Whites on Saturday afternoon had quite an easy time with their Interport prospective rivals, the Colours, and won by 5-0. Both teams started off vigorously and so tense was the play that at the close of the first half but a single goal had been registered, Goldman edging the ball past Leach, after receiving a short pass from Coulcher. On several occasions, Gowan, from half for the Colours, opened an attack, but he was usually met with stern opposition by Crawford and Philips. From a pass, Sofoulis got by once, but Quayle was ready and kicked away from the goal. Madar loomed dangerous for a minute, Leach cleared with no difficulty. The score at the end of the first half was:—Whites, 1; Colours, 0.

Renewed vigour and vim marked the next period, both elevens returning to the field with a spirit that meant goals, but again the Whites' attack proved superior, the forwards showing a combination in which individual merit was noticeable as well as a coherence and unity of purpose. A brilliant effort by Evans, Sofoulis and Tordy kept the ball at the opposite end for a brief period, after Moosa had missed an easy shot, Goldman again took up the burden and, from mass play before the goal mouth, slipped one past Leach that he could not get near enough even to touch. Wilson drove in strongly from the wing and so fast that it scored. Wilson again got dangerous and kicked to Leach, who got the ball away, but it was held to have crossed the line and a goal was given.

Wilson also scored the last, which came about through Coulcher's shot, Leach saving but Wilson scoring on the rebound. Final score:—Whites, 5; Colours, 0.

The Second League matches were much better contested than on previous football days this season.

INTER-VARSITY RUGBY FOOTBALL

Cambridge Defeated by Oxford by 21 Points to 14:

London, Dec. 11.

The Inter-Varsity Rugby football match was played to-day at Twickenham in fine weather. There were 15,000 spectators, including His Majesty. Oxford beat Cambridge by 21 points to 14.

There was a sensational start, Oxford scoring after three minutes through Smith, Lawton converting. Cambridge rallied and transferred the play to the Oxford half, their forwards for a time controlling the game.

After 15 minutes Francis scored for Cambridge from a penalty with a beautiful drop-kick. Two minutes later Wickes beat six men and scored a wonderful try for Cambridge, which Francis failed to convert. Macpherson scored a try for Oxford from a pass from Wallace, which Lawton converted from an awkward angle. Lawton then made a brilliant run and transferred to Smith, who scored another try for Oxford, Lawton missing the goal by inches. Just before the interval Scott scored a try for Cambridge which Francis converted.

The score at half time was Oxford 13, Cambridge 11.

On resumption a mistake by Macpherson resulted in Oxford being penned in their own half for several minutes. Then Macpherson scored a try for Oxford, which was converted by Lawton. Lawton then scored a try which he himself failed to convert.

The play was very strenuous. Cambridge was tiring, but just

on time a great passing movement ended in a try by Devitt for Cambridge which was not converted by Francis—Reuter.

LAWN TENNIS

"Seeding Draw" for Wimbledon Championships

London, Dec. 10.

The annual general meeting of the Lawn Tennis Association to-day unanimously passed the proposal of the Council with regard to a "seeding draw" for the Wimbledon Championships, by which overseas nominees of the same country will be so drawn that they will not meet until the later stages. Each nation is entitled to nominate four players for the "seeding."—Reuter.

BOXING

Middleweight and Light Heavy-weight Contests in U. S.

New York, Dec. 10.

Laughran, of Philadelphia, was to-day awarded a decision over Todd, the British middleweight champion, in a 10-round contest here.

In a contest here to-day for the American light heavy-weight boxing championship, Tunney, the holder, defeated Greb on points.—Reuter's American Service.

International Racing

Paris, Nov. 12.

An official request was sent to the American and British Jockey Clubs to-day that they designate the best qualified horses of the breeding of 1920 to represent the United States and Great Britain, respectively, at a meeting with the French crack, Epinard, in an international three-cornered race to be held at Longchamps on May 3, 1924. The race would be for stakes of Frs. 500,000, the distance one mile and a quarter and the weights 126 lb.—Reuter.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

Full information is obtainable on application to The Secretary, Southern Rhodesia Settlers' Board (attached to the Government of Southern Rhodesia), P. O. Box 372, Salisbury S., Rhodesia.

The giving of advice to prospective settlers will be facilitated if applicants will advise the Board in detail of their circumstances and the amount of capital they would be prepared to invest in a suitable venture.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

THE CONVERSIONS OF PETER

A Sermon Preached by the Rev. A. N. Rowland on November 25, 1923, in Union Church, Shanghai

"Turn us again, O God, cause Thy face to shine, and we shall be saved." Ps. 80, 3, 7, 19.

The most distinctive and beautiful thing in human life is that it can be turned and turned again by the process that in the New Testament is sometimes called Conversion. Conversion means turning away from what is lower to that which is higher. It is the exercise of repentance and faith. Thus it is not simply a turning on its own axis after the manner of a weather-vane. Conversion is a spiral turning, like that of a screw which brings life up to a higher plane. The common standard of measuring life is by success which means going on and far in one direction. But so often it happens that the soul is lost on the way, and man's power of going on cannot be compared with his power of turning round as the most beautiful feature of human life.

CHAMBERLAIN ON TEMPTATION.

The outstanding illustration of our subject in the New Testament is the Apostle Peter. He showed a capacity for turning and turning again until his whole nature was given over to the will of God. It is on such a kind of man that our Lord builds his Church, not on those who are proud to stand where they always did. The present election in England has brought Mr. Joseph Chamberlain to mind. Once he spoke of the increasing temptations which beset a public man, calling for increased powers of resistance to the very end. And must we not believe that if Satan tries to increase his grip on man God means to get a closer hold too? The story of the Apostle Peter might have been given us to answer this very question. Let us take the four chief turning points in his life, when he brought his nature more and more fully under the will of God as it was shown him in Christ.

The first scene is by the lakeside and is described in Luke 5. Simon had failed in his fishing and was discouraged, when he found that the Man whose preaching had attracted him was able and ready to help him marvellously in his own job. It was enough to reveal to him the moral majesty of Christ, and he exclaimed "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." On that occasion his conscience had won: in questions of right and wrong henceforth he became sensitive to the standpoint of Christ. His old self complacency never returned: his vanity was no longer an invincible shield. Has our self-esteem thus been wounded unto death? That is the first turn of real conversion, when our con-

science has been subdued by Christ.

AT THE SUPPER TABLE.

But Peter had occasion to turn again, although he had already left all to follow Jesus. This time it was his ideals that were converted. A national festival had arrived as we read in John 13, and everyone was in a mood to be waited on. None of the company was willing to do the menial but necessary service of foot-washing. Then Peter was cut to the heart as the Master himself approached and knelt at his feet. He had a sharp conflict with his pride, and then he surrendered his old ideal of superiority to the love that is willing to serve. Has our own ideal of life thus been penetrated and overturned? Are we possessed by the Christian ambition to spend and be spent for others? It requires a real conversion.

For all his change towards God in his conscience and ideals Peter was still governed by the law of self-preservation when his loyalty was tested by ridicule. His heart was not yet perfectly turned for his loyalty ebbed out at the sight of a serving-maid. But the picture in John 18 has a pendant in chapter 21. After that searching experience the courage of his love could never be impeached again. Are we converted as far as that? Loyalties in this city are easily at the mercy of a scornful smile or a plausible slander. Fashion is allowed to be dictator even in so sacred a sphere as friendship. This is a side of our life that has also to be turned to God, and it will not be turned but for the appeal of Christ "Lovest thou Me more than these?"

THE CENTURION'S HOUSE.

Was there anything more that needed to be turned in Peter—this thrice converted man? Yes, two whole chapters, the 10th and 11th of Acts, were required to tell of the winning of his sympathies for Christ. Peter already appreciated the Christian faith of those who had come by his road—the way of Moses, but he looked askance at Gentile believers, not perhaps as "lesser breeds without the law," but at least as unorthodox and not quite. Now at last he learned that those who have the spirit of Christ may differ in their definitions of Christ.

A man may have turned much of his nature to Christ without turning his sympathies. It is painful to know that the word of exclusion is being uttered against those who do not add certain doctrines and traditions to their faith. It

is the old issue that was settled for the Apostles long ago, but has apparently to be settled again for the church to-day. Is there a way of faith, that is the question, just faith in Christ as Saviour and Lord without definition or addition? And if it brings us into fellowship with the Father must it not bring us also into fellowship in Christ's church?

This most beautiful of human faculties then, the power of turning and turning again to God, in response to His deepening appeal through Christ, is set forth for the instruction of the Church in the story of Peter, the typical disciple, with his four outstanding conversions. Let us note in conclusion the light it throws first on Church history and then on our own experience. The story of the Church for many is a tale of declension. Some attribute finality in the things of Christ to the age of our grandfathers, others to the time of the Puritans, others to the days of the Reformers, others again to the so-called ages of Faith or further back still to the epoch of creed makers and martyrs. Whatever be the standard chosen it is fixed in the past, and on this theory the only hope for the Church is to recover the standard that has been left behind and lost.

CHURCH HISTORY A SPIRAL.

How much truer and happier it is to find the secret of the Church's history in its power of turning to the light sides of thought and life that hitherto have not been penetrated by the mind of Christ. This is the true secret, I am convinced. It explains, for instance, how Francis taught the Church to bring its compassions under the sway of Christ and Luther its powers of private judgment. Nonconformity (i.e., the Church's protest against the secular hand and mind, which has issued in high churchmanship); Foreign Missions (i.e., the extension of Christian interest and service beyond national limits to the whole world); Settlements and such like (i.e., the wakening of the Church's conscience as to the dehumanizing of modern life)—these and other movements are repeated answers to the prayer that originated with the Psalmist "Turn us again, O God, cause Thy face to shine, and we shall be saved."

This should be a real element in our Christian hope, as it is also a sound reason for loyalty to the Church, that if we are faithful in our own day some new side of the life that Christ redeemed shall be turned over to him for his possession and use. Church history is not a down grade movement, but a spiral, a continuous turning to God and thus realizing the fulness of His salvation.

"A CAKE HALF-TURNED."

There is but time for a few words now as to the bearing of

this truth on our personal experience. There is no doubt that many look back on their conversion as a final thing; but are they not missing something? Others have undoubtedly forsaken the faith because it has lost its power of appeal, has stood still while they grew up, has no power of surprise left in it. If Christian disciples could see that more and more of their nature and powers are to be turned to God as experience unfolds they would not run the risk of being classed with Ephraim as a "cake half-turned."

In the case of Israel, prophet after prophet came, not so much to reach individuals as to make the people turn and turn again to God, not only in professions, habits and creeds but in the treatment of their fellows, the use of their gifts, the direction of their sympathies and so on, in correspondence with the increase of their national life.

So it is with us. It is true that the first surrender to Christ carries with it a pledge to accept his mastery in everything. But it is so easy to withhold part of the price, and we must always lay ourselves open to the divine testing, as to whether we are turned to the Lord in all our being, in our hospitality, our tolerance, our forgiveness, our cooperation, our generosity, our joyfulness. "Turn us again O God, as flowers to the sun; cause Thy face to shine, and we shall be saved."

A VOYAGE WITH HIS MAJESTY'S NAVY

H. M. S. Hawkins and Some River Gunboats

By O. M. Green.

Sailors object that descriptions of the sea are written entirely from the landsman's point of view, not the seaman's. To which it may be answered that if landsmen could view the sea otherwise, they would cease to be landsmen. And this is specially true of men-of-war, in which every soul must be at one and the same time sailor, fighting man and expert in some highly technical and complicated piece of machinery.

So it was with vivid, yet wholly undefined expectations, that one went on board H. M. S. Hawkins for one's first cruise in a man-of-war. The most pressing consideration was a mortal funk that one might disgrace oneself by being seasick. Even those who boast themselves good sailors have their off moments and we were to run a high speed trial. But this misgiving was mercifully disappointed. Even though there was a considerable sea, the Hawkins is beautifully steady, a great tribute to her designers, who of course, with a view to good shooting, put stability in the forefront of their aims.

DOWN THE HUANGPU.

To take a ship of 600ft. in length round Pootung Point and down the Huangpu is no idle pastime. Opinions are divided, I believe, as to whether it is best to lie with head up stream and, at the time of leaving, steam up above the junk anchorage and turn, thus reaching Pootung Point with full steering way on; or make the turning on arrival in port and start downstream straight from the senior naval officer's buoy at the best moment of the tide.

Advocates of the former method should have been in the Hawkins on that wet November morning when she quietly slipped her moorings and stood down river for Hongkong. It would be impossible to imagine anything more majestic, precise and irresistible than that slow, perfectly controlled advance. "In form and moving how express and admirable"—progress was indeed but little more than just perceptible: yet one had a sense of vast forces held in a leash and of perfect responsiveness to the navigator's most delicate order. On the bridge oppressive silence prevailed, but with the same sense of instant readiness in all present for the moment's emergency and word of command.

"One long blast." The siren lets out an ear-splitting scream and a junk, which appears to think that there is nothing within a thousand miles of her, true to Chinese type by sea or land, ponderously sheers off into safety. Then a solitary Chinese, yulohing a raft of logs with sampan behind, appears from nowhere, seemingly bent on suicide. The Hawkins wastes no steam on him and at the last moment, in the same amazing way in which a ricsha will slant off by just enough to give an overtaking motor-car room to pass, the raft slips by under our counter. The river is a maze of shipping of every description and intent. It might seem impossible that anything so huge, so difficult to stop as the Hawkins when once she is moving could get through. Moreover, it is not only bows and beam that must be considered, but what will become of her long stern, as the after man on a fire ladder in the old days of the volunteer fire brigade will well understand.

Once there was serious anxiety for a few minutes. A coasting steamer (let us not name her) backing out across the fairway gave three blasts, indicating in sea parlance that she was going astern and, by inference, we might go ahead of her; but as she left her forward wire out, this was impossible. The Hawkins eased up and waited with the patient forbearance of a big dog for an irresponsible puppy, while the coaster hauled herself by the offending wire back to the wharf, visibly trembling in every plate. Yet further down and in the widest part of the river, a President boat, coming up unwieldily

on the strong flood, almost crowded us into the shore.

Visibility (what recollections hang about the word!) was so bad owing to rain and mist that there was some question whether we could cross the Fairy Flats that evening. But in nick of time the weather cleared and the Hawkins shot out for open sea, avoiding the shorter but treacherous passage through the Chusans.

FULL SPEED.

From one extreme of movement to the other. We woke to rolling blue seas and an increasing vibration, which told that the Hawkins was working up to her two hours' full speed test. Which full speed, it may here be mentioned, as an illustration of the punctuality with which things are done in the Navy, was reported to the Captain precisely at the intended hour: neither a minute before nor a minute after. What that speed was it is not my business to say. But imagining oneself travelling in a motor-car over a smooth road, it seemed incredible that this vast conglomeration of over 9000 tons of steel and machinery could be driven through the seas at like pace. The nearness of the Hawkins' quarter-deck to the water enabled one to get a good idea of the tremendous speed at which we were moving. The exhilaration it inspired was thrilling. Even the officers, not given to emotion, showed visible excitement. Contrary to expectation there was but little vibration. Despite the sea she travelled on a perfectly even keel, and when the gunnery officer took advantage of the trial to have a little practice at imaginary aeroplanes, shooting up a smoke shell and aiming at the burst, he was able to do some very pretty marksmanship. Any aeroplane situated where those white cushiony dabs of smoke were being ringed and punctured by the black puffs of high explosive would have had very little news to send home about it.

The two hours were over, the Hawkins relapsed to an easier pace and her Engineer Commander smoothed out the furrow between his brows and got into clean clothes. Not the least memorable part of the run was the apparent calm prevailing in the engine and furnace rooms. One might almost have been deceived into thinking that nobody was doing anything nor had a care in the world and that those terrible oil furnaces, so intensely bright that they can only be looked at through smoked glass, needed no more attention than the average motorist gives to the explosion in his cylinders. And certainly oil must be a great improvement on coal from the stokers' point of view. But every extra convenience that man invents—for his comfort or undoing who shall decide?—must be paid for, according to the well-proved law of compensations—and turbines and oil fuel are tricky things, to be hedged about and governed by a hundred careful regulations if they are to remain the servants

they should be. Appearances in the engine room are as deceptive as they are everywhere else on board a man-of-war.

MAZES OF MACHINERY.

Of those other appearances it is out of order to attempt to speak in detail, and would be absurd to do so, even if one might, for every other word must expose one's ignorance. "Go everywhere, see everything, do whatever you like," said the Commander-in-chief cheerily and handed one over to his staff for the grand tour. Recollections of that intricate journey through the mazes of the ship, cannot but be confused and overwhelmed. The infinite complexity of all parts, the exquisite adaptation of means to end, the careful duplication and reduplication of apparatus to enable work to be carried on unchecked by an unlucky shell or the assault of Nature, the delicate precision of every movement—all these leave an ineffaceable sense of wonderment and reverence. "What a piece of work is a man, in action how like an angel, in apprehension how like a god." To the marvels of his inventiveness there is no end.

Amid all this welter of steel and electricity, of limitless power and death-dealing terror, seven hundred men have their homes and belongings and personal interests and though their quarters are necessarily cramped in so pre-eminently a fighting machine, they would appear to make themselves pretty comfortable. Travellers will remember the peculiar nature of cabins to expand day by day from the mere pill box they appear at first view into the seeming spaciousness of a millionaire's suite. And if the average spoiled and fussy globetrotter can thus adapt himself to life on the ocean wave, how much more the resourceful sailor man?

Everything too, that his superiors can do to make the bluejacket's life comfortable is done. Discipline goes hand-in-hand with a personal sympathy that makes for an intimacy of connexion between all ranks, which is perhaps the chief secret of the British Navy's greatness. Most captains, I believe, make it a point of honour to know the names of, and something about, every one of the hundreds of men in their care; and from personal motives, quite as much as in the general interests of efficiency, officers are remarkably careful to see that the bluejacket is decently fed and warmed and kept as far as possible from doing any of the amazingly foolish things which this highly trained, but in some things most guileless creature might otherwise do to injure his health.

NAVAL HOSPITALITY.

Of my hosts on board H. M. S. Hawkins from highest to lowest it is perhaps hardly decent to speak in print. No civilian that has ever tasted of the Navy's hospitality has aught but enthusiastic gratitude, almost a sense of

shame for so much kindness received, so little done in return. I remember a certain correspondent of a Radical newspaper, himself a red hot Socialist and prone to air his views, sent out by his paper to naval manoeuvres. "Why Hodgkins," said the officers to him one day laughingly. "It's rank treason you're talking on His Majesty's quarter-deck." But socialist or no, he was their guest. And when Hodgkins, who was indeed a good fellow though a little mad, returned to his paper, the Navy was ever afterwards excluded from his theories of revolution.

My own experience of men-of-war on this trip included not only the Hawkins, but a voyage in a river gunboat and a night on board one of the "insect" class. These vessels are scarcely adopted for carrying passengers and in the "insect" I found afterwards that the cabin I occupied was given me at the cost of one officer sleeping on deck in a camp bed. But when I tried to stammer my regrets, every body combined to assure me (1) that the ship swarmed with spare cabins (2) that the said officer was really sleeping on shore and (3) that anyway he much preferred to sleep on deck, especially on cold winter nights. And farewells were accompanied by an urgent invitation to come for a voyage up the West River whenever convenient.

THE RIVER GUNBOATS.

That, too, would be an experience worth having; for the actual voyage one made in a gunboat from Hongkong to Canton had given one a new insight into the endless cares and responsibilities of the Navy. We put out from the myriad lights of Hongkong into a night of inky blackness and one of the most tortuous and confusing rivers in the world. How the Commander ever found his way is beyond a landsman's imagination. But through the darkness she merrily bustled along, while all night long her Commander remained on the bridge, and morning found us as safely off Shameen as if the whole river from Hongkong had been lighted with arc lamps. The navigation of these southern rivers, which look so broad on the map, is a matter of the greatest anxiety. Not the alleged malignancy of Hongkong, but Nature, prevents Canton from becoming a deep sea port. The East, West and North rivers and the delta present inextricable confusion of hairpin turns, shifting banks, depths that change with every season and rocks where none ought to be. And, for an occasional side show, not long ago the Commander of one gunboat and three other men were penned up in a five-foot-diameter conning tower, because some Chinese troops were aiming across the river at an enemy a mile away and therefore most of their bullets naturally found the ship, which was only a hundred

yards off in the stream. Of which bombardment she bears marks to this day, but luckily no one hurt.

ALWAYS ON DUTY.

There may be folk on shore, I have heard it said so, who think that life in the navy except in war time means nothing but taking the ship from one place to another, a certain amount of routine and a lot of spare time. No impression could be more erroneous. For all the genial comradeship of the Hawkins and her small sisters, the ready chat and patient explanation of the ship's parts in season and out, one was never without the sense of work to be done and the constant dictates of duty. In the middle of a conversation an officer would disappear quietly for some urgent call, or a messenger would arrive from another part of the ship, requiring immediate attention. It is a commonplace that a sailor always carries his life in his hand. Even when a ship is lying at anchor, there are other ships to be thought of, as witness what recently happened in Shanghai, when the Poyang somehow cut the Hawkins' forward mooring, so that she swung right round on the tide, beyond any human agency to control, and fetched up with her bows against the Colmar. We go to sea nowadays with a safety and indifference that our ancestors never dreamed of. That is the passenger's point of view. The captain's and crew's is very much otherwise. It is worth considering that every new device for the managing of ships, though it may mean greater safety, means also greater responsibility: and this is necessarily increased when you are dealing with a vast fighting machine, in which a few degrees extra temperature at the right (or wrong) place, or a door incautiously left unclosed, might spell horrid disaster.

Thus we come back to what was said at the beginning, that every man on board one of His Majesty's ships is not only a sailor but a technical expert in his own line, the preoccupations of which are always on the edge of his thoughts. And therewith, if I may humbly say so, he is a great gentleman, in whom the thought of self, if it ever arise, is at least never allowed to influence his slightest action. That is the tradition of the greatest Service, the most eloquent and unanswerable rebuke to the demagogue and marxist, that the world has ever seen.

Mr. Edwin S. Cunningham, U. S. Consul-General, is in receipt of an autographed photograph of the new American President, Mr. Calvin Coolidge. The American Club has also received a similar photograph, but, it is thought, that the original will be enlarged and placed over the fire-place in the main room, where that of President Harding is still hanging.

THE PROVINCES AND THEIR OPPRESSORS

**An Interview with Mr. Roy Anderson: People of China
Beginning to Grow Restive Against Tutchunism:
The Increasing Violation of Treaties**

Mr. Roy Anderson, who recently returned from Yunnan and southwestern China, when seen by a representative of the "North-China Daily News," said that the remarkable thing he noticed as he moved from province to province, was that the ordinary people of China were rapidly formulating their ideas as to the kind of government they really wanted.

Mr. Anderson replying to a question as to why so little interest was taken in the doings of the Peking Government said:

"The consensus of opinion among the people is that China is a federation of self-governing provinces, which is, after all, a return to a normal opinion on the subject. For that is exactly what China was until an effort was made during the revolution to copy the republican methods of the United States and France. The provincial self-government movement, which is fundamentally sound and democratic, is making rapid progress everywhere.

THE BURDEN OF ARMIES.

"The imposition of provincial troops of one province upon the people of another province is what is making most of the trouble today. In the days of the Empire there was a semblance of national control of the army. Therefore there was little opposition to the presence of units of the national army in various provinces. And, as is well known, at that time the military were subordinate to the civil authority. But since the establishment of the Republic, the military leaders have been unwilling to re-establish a national army and to subordinate their own activities to the civil authority. This has led to chaos. All the armies at present operating in China are personal—that is, they are in the position of personal retainers of their chieftains. This is resented by the people, particularly when the Tutchun of one province maintains his position in another by armed force.

"The strength of provincial public opinion is what is responsible for the break-down of personal military power and the constant trouble all Tutchuns are having in the provinces they govern.

"Each military leader owes personal allegiance to some puppet he has helped into power. One man supports Tsao Kun; another Tuan Chi-jui; a third Tang Chi-yao, and so on. But in all these affiliations no principle of government is involved. It is merely the keeping in power of one individual by a group of armed individuals. That is all that is government in China today."

When Mr. Anderson was asked about the local situation involving the possibility of war between Kiangsu and Chèkiang, he said:

"The people of Chèkiang and Kiangsu know that any quarrel between Chi Hsieh-yuan and Lu Yung-hsiang will not be over a question of principle involving the kind of government the people of China are to have, but only a question of personality; that is, who is to be the master? They, the people, really do not care. They have no interest in the outcome of a personal row between Lu and Chi, or for that matter, between Tsao Kun and Tuan Chi-jui. Neither of these provinces need nor want a military establishment. They have been peaceful for centuries except when some military man raised an army and tried to rule them by force. The cost of the military establishments of these provinces has been so large that there is no money for education or improvements of a public nature. The people of Kiangsu and Chèkiang would prefer that the money spent on soldiers should be spent beneficially for the province.

"Nine of out ten Chinese would say that both Lu and Chi are good men, but they would also add that there is absolutely no necessity for their troops and that the only disorders in the province which call for troops arise from the presence in the province of the troops. Every time these gentlemen disagree over any question there is a preparation for war, very costly to the province, which after all is not in the least interested.

THE ILLEGAL TAXATION.

"Foreigners as well as Chinese are bound to suffer from this situation. The more jealous these individuals become of each other, the higher will be the expenditures, and ultimately the leaders have to resort to illegal methods of taxation to fill the treasury. This misappropriation of taxes has led to a confusion of ideas in the provinces, for the schools and public institutions must find money somewhere and not getting it out of ordinary taxes, some of the educators have come to favour extraordinary ones. For instance, Dr. P. W. Kuo, President of Southeastern University and a great educator, has recently gone to Peking to encourage the illegal cigarette tax. Had he instead asked Chi and Lu each to reduce their armies by two or three mixed brigades, Chèkiang and Kiangsu would not have been forced to resort to violations of treaties to raise revenue.

"This sentiment that treaties do not count will make it more difficult for foreign trade to continue without further safeguards. The

Diplomatic Corps in Peking is too busy writing protests to the Chinese Government to handle the question seriously.

THE PRESIDENT'S DUTY.

"This leads me to the question of Canton. The report of the landing of foreign troops to prevent the seizing of the Canton Customs by Dr. Sun (there is no truth in this report, of course.—Ed.) is to my mind tantamount to the Powers landing an international force to support Tsao Kun against Sun Yat-sen. Now, some Chinese want Tsao as president, and some may want Sun or some other man. If the Powers want Tsao as President why don't they tell Tsao to prevent Sun from seizing the Customs. It is a President's business to maintain the government's authority. If Tsao can't do that, why recognize him? It seems foolish for the Powers to recognize Tsao when his own immediate followers don't obey him. Tsao Kun issued a mandate to abolish illegal taxes, for instance, but immediately Honan and Kiangsu, in which Wu Pei-fu and Chi Hsieh-yuan, Tsao Kun's strongest followers, are warlords, introduce illegal taxes. If they disobey Tsao, why should the Powers support him? If Sun is to be called to order, why not Tsao?

"The Chinese themselves worry little about the scenes staged either in Peking or Canton. Nobody takes Peking seriously but the diplomats and just so long as the diplomats take Peking seriously a government will exist there of the character of the present one. Indirectly, the Powers are responsible for the violation of treaties, for if they took a strong and united stand on the question, violations would cease. It would be an easy matter to refund those who suffered because of illegal taxation in Kiangsu and Chèkiang as well as other provinces, if the Powers added an extra tax on all goods passing through the Shanghai Customs to and from these provinces. This is simpler than landing troops and costs less. The merchants of the provinces would then make so much noise—after their pocket-books were hit—that the Tutchuns would go sooner than is now anticipated and the foreigners would be better off for it.

THE USELESSNESS OF ARMIES.

"Personally I am very fond of Chi Hsieh-yuen, having known him for many years, and I admire Lu Yung-hsiang, who has many virtues. But in their personal row, how can anyone have more than a passing interest? Having been born in Kiangsu province and naturally having deep regard for this part of China, I don't see why policy or friendships should influence me to avoid calling attention to the absolute uselessness of having armies in these provinces. When the armies go, the people will have a good government—as good as they know how to make one."

CATON AND DR. SUN

The Constitutionals' War
on the North

By O. M. Green.

Canton is one of the romantic names of geography, like Golconda or the Coromandel coast. Here was the birthplace of Western influence in the Far East, here the home of a proud, fiery, clever people and of all kinds of ingenious industries in clay and ivory and needlework.

But romance and Canton have little to say to each other nowadays. The reports of her condition reaching the outside world are as usual much exaggerated. One had heard that all business was dead, the streets empty, people afraid to leave their houses for fear of the military press gangs. Of this there was no evidence. The Bund was crowded with coolies loading and unloading innumerable boats, while the river was alive with traffic; shops appeared to be doing business as usual; and if the streets were empty, I do not want to push about them when they are full. On the other hand, there is no doubt that business on large wholesale lines has suffered enormously from the war taxation and military requisitions are killing; and it is a fact that coolies will not take messages to the eastern end of the town because of the press gangs. The Constitutionalist Government is trying to arrange with the guilds for a Labour Corps, but one doubts if recruits for it will come forward very readily.

THE YUNANESE AND OTHERS.

The military situation, favourable to Dr. Sun when I was in Canton, is the most extraordinary mixture. There are, in the ranks on both sides, Kuangsi men, Cantonese and even Northerners. The Yunnanese are all on Dr. Sun's side and are undoubtedly the most important military factor. They are well drilled and led and discipline is strict among them. A Yunnanese failing to salute an officer in the street, I was told, is immediately stopped and given six cuts on the hand: the pain is small, the loss of face great. I was also told (by a foreigner who knows Canton well) that the Yunnanese pride themselves on never looting. However, as they control the gambling monopoly, they probably do pretty well financially. The Kuangsi and Cantonese troops have a bad reputation for looting, and, it is said, will wantonly smash up what they cannot carry away. There are no trains running to Kowloon and no telegraphic communication with Hongkong. Also, though there is no outward sign of the civil war, the thousands of refugees who have flocked to Hongkong are evidence enough of the prevailing uneasiness.

WHAT THE FIGHT IS ABOUT.

Dr. Wu Chao-chu, son of the late Dr. Wu Ting-fang and the

most important member of the Government next to Dr. Sun, looks considerably older than when I saw him a year or so ago and careworn. But he was as friendly and pleasant as ever. He emphasized that the fight between Dr. Sun and General Chen Chiung-ming is no personal quarrel; that, he said, was a popular but quite erroneous idea. When Yuan Shih-kai wished to subdue the South, he sent northern troops to do it; so did Feng Kuo-chang and Hsu Shih-chang. Wu Pei-fu, said Dr. Wu, had hit on the plan of setting provincials against each other. Thus he had started off Yang Sen from Chungking to make his raid on Szechuan and had stirred up Chen Chiung-ming against Dr. Sun. Chen was but a catspaw for Wu Pei-fu, who, more than anyone else, would appear to be the object of hatred and hostility in the South.

Dr. Wu said that his chief would most willingly join in the round table conference, for which Sir Robert Ho-tung is working: indeed Dr. Sun proposed such a conference long ago. But it must be a conference of all and of the leaders themselves, not of mere delegates. Nobody in the South thinks that Wu Pei-fu would take part in it.

DR. SUN'S HEADQUARTERS.

We went across the river to the cement works, Dr. Sun's headquarters. A number of soldiers were busy unpacking a small field-gun from a launch, and others, very smart-looking, presented arms as we walked up the jetty.

In contrast with his subordinate Dr. Sun was looking remarkably brisk and well. He has lost flesh and his hair is grey. But his eyes were bright and his whole manner suggested alertness and even enjoyment of the harassing life he leads.

Most of our conversation was taken up with Dr. Sun's determination to get control of the Kuangtung and Kuangsi Customs, unless the Diplomatic Body will secure for him the provinces' share of the surplus, as in 1919-20. This question has been sufficiently discussed elsewhere in these columns.

THE HOUSE CONFISCATION.

I asked about the confiscation of houses. Both Dr. Sun and Dr. Wu assured me that the reports of this were exaggerated. Only house property built on reclaimed land along the river and where the old walls and moat had been, and for which the owners could show no title, was affected, the Government contending that this was Government land. Dr. Wu quoted the case of one man who, on the south bank, had annexed a quantity of land and sold off what he did not want. The owners of the latter portion, producing their deeds of purchase, were told by the Constitutionals that the man they dealt with had no power to sell, that they must now repurchase their houses from the Government and could sue the man whom they had paid in court.

As, however, he has skipped to Canton, their chances are not bright.

With all allowance for exaggeration, Canton seems to have been skinned pretty close. Another forced loan of a month's rent from all owners of property has just been imposed and everything mortgageable has been pledged. Dr. Wu admitted that there might be cases of hardship, as always in times of national stress. On the other hand, foreigners favourable to Dr. Sun say that there is plenty of money in Canton, that those now dropped on have hitherto never paid anything proportionate to their means and that the expropriated monasteries were dens of iniquity and opium smoking.

THE CANTON MERCHANT'S FEELING.

If all the men concerned in the Southern cause were like Dr. Sun and Dr. Wu, the case would be different. It is impossible to doubt, nor does anyone doubt, their sincerity, whatever may be thought of their political wisdom. With all his opportunities and in a country which would see nothing amiss in his profiting by them, Dr. Sun is not a rich man, and his personal courage wins the admiration even of his detractors. But there are ugly stories of how some of those associated with him have feathered their nests and their behaviour has reacted unfavourably on his popularity. One heard repeatedly, and from men who should know what they are talking of, that some of Dr. Sun's best supporters have begun to grow cold and that his personal influence is not what it was. But it takes a lot, in China as she is to-day, to dethrone a man who is absolutely sure of himself, does not hesitate at any step that he believes necessary and has won the reputation of living for his ideals not for himself. The most significant fact against Dr. Sun is that the Canton merchants have begun to form their own volunteer defence corps and are said to have enrolled 10,000 men, though as yet they have not rifles for a quarter of them. This is a movement worth watching for the possibility of its being imitated in other provinces.

IN THE OLD CITY.

In the afternoon I went shopping in the old streets of Canton among the blackwood, the ivory and the lace. These deep narrow lanes, with their gaudy signs and rich wares, their houses pierced through the first floor right up to the roof, no doubt for airiness in the scorching southern summer, and their tall heavily barred doorways, show little evidence of change. One likes them far better than the big new buildings and broad boulevards of the eastern end where smart, white-uniformed police regulate the traffic with all the masterfulness of a Nanking Road Sikh. The old is genuine. The new is something that one does not yet recognize as China, of which one cannot realize that it ever will be China. But perhaps this is the same sort of mis-

take that we make in Rome, where the Italians furiously exclaim against the fuss that is made abroad when they remove an old wall to put up something new and ask whether the foreigner expects them for ever to live among ruins.

THE UNBRIDGEABLE GULF.

But what strikes one most in Canton is that it is all infinitely remote from Peking and even from Central China. One is in a world apart and the odds and ends of news which trickle down from the capital might have come from the planet Mars. Moreover one cannot resist the feeling that whereas the war on Peking is the sole interest in Canton's political thoughts, the war on Canton is but a side issue in the many preoccupations of Peking.

How shall these two ends of China ever come together, so utterly discrepant as they are in physical appearance, in character and political aims? And if this difficulty were overcome, what of the vast remote lands of Szechuan, of Yunnan now a wholly independent kingdom, of the uncharted wilds of Kansu and Chang Tso-lin's enormous kingdom? The machinery of centralized government has been so utterly smashed under republican experiment, that it seems impossible now to construct any system in which they shall all work in harmony.

Dr. Sun has an answer pat. "Let the Powers withdraw the moral and financial support which they accord to Peking. Let them observe in fact that neutrality towards China's internal troubles which they profess in theory. The only thing which keeps China in turmoil is the prestige which the illegal government of Peking, which we do not and never will recognize, derives from foreign recognition. And until that is withdrawn I will never cease fighting."

AFTER despairing of finding a bullet in the arm of a woman who had been shot at by loafers in a Nanking Road alleyway on Sunday night, the doctor at Shantung Road Hospital was surprised to see it drop out of the patient's sleeve after the wound had been dressed. The woman, who is 45 and of the poorer class, is stated to have told the police that she was carrying no valuables at the time.

THE Child Labour Commission which has been appointed by the Shanghai Municipal Council to inquire into the conditions of child labour in Shanghai and the vicinity and to make recommendations to the Council with reference thereto is now engaged in taking evidence. All persons—whether employers, workmen or others—who are interested in this question and who can give information thereon are invited to communicate with the Secretary of the Commission. Communications should be addressed to:—

Mr. Jas. W. Fraser, Secretary, Child Labour Commission, C/o S. M. C. Secretariat.

SUMMER IS DYING

Flutter by, flutter by, warm days are flying;
Fly away, die away, beautiful butterfly;
Summer is dying.

Haste away swallow blue, ever be flying;
By the cold chased away, would I could follow too;
Summer is dying.

Fall away leaves of green, on the winds flying;
Withered up all away, Oh, what a grievous scene;
Summer is dying.

Colder the weather grows, hear the winds crying;
Thrush in his feather clothes, sings but he never goes;
Summer is dying.

CECIL MALCOLM LOGAN.



Mrs. R. says: "My boy was brought up on Glaxo, and is a fine healthy child. Apart from breast-milk, I am sure it is the only perfect food."

Baby's peaceful sleep

Peaceful sleep at the right time is as necessary to Baby as the right kind and quantity of food. If he does not sleep, or is restless in sleep, he is unwell, and a frequent cause of Baby's ill-health is indigestion. A suitable form of milk is the only food for a baby up to nine months, and GLAXO is milk in its most nourishing and most digestible form. Glaxo has only to be mixed with hot, boiled water to provide instantly the required quantity of pure, fresh, unadulterated milk—milk made specially digestible and safe for Baby by the Glaxo Process.

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The safest, purest form of milk
for every milk purpose

Don't buy Baby's feeder until you have seen the
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Write to The British Medical Imports Co., 432 Kiukiang Road, Shanghai
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COMMERCE & FINANCE

Money and Exchange

OFFICIAL RATES

Shanghai, Dec. 14.

Bank's demand selling rate for
£1 at 3/4½ = Tls. 5.98 at 72 =
\$8.30

Bank's demand selling rate for
G.\$100 at 73½ = Tls. 136.52 at 72
= \$189.61

Mex. Dollars, market rate 722.375
Native Interest 24
Copper Cash 251.000
Bar Silver 33½
Bank rate of discount 4%
Paris on London Frs. 82.23
New York on London G.\$4.37½

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

LONDON—	Per Tael
Telegraphic Transfer	3/4
Demand	3/4½
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	73
Demand	73½
PARIS—	
Demand	1373
INDIA—	
Demand	234½
HONGKONG—	
Demand	70½
JAPAN—	
Demand	64½
BATAVIA—	
Demand	197
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	70½

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/4½
4 m/s. credits	3/6
4 m/s. Docs.	3/6½
6 m/s. credits	3/6½
6 m/s. Docs.	3/7
NEW YORK—	
Demand	74
4 m/s. credits	75½
4 m/s. Docs.	76½
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1450
Closing business done at:—	
London T.T.	3/4½
New York T.T.	73½

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR
DECEMBER.

Hk Tl. 5.61 @ 3/2½	£1
" 1 @ 1260½	Frs. 14.04
" 1.28 @ 70½	Gold \$1
" 1 @ 69½	Yen 1.60
" 1 @ 225½	Rupees 2.51
" 1 @ 1.50	Mex. \$1.50
" 1 @ 15½	It. Lire 17.68
Marks and Roubles	no quotation

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Dates, Dec. 14.

It. Lire 16.50	Tl. 1
Swiss Frs. 4.15	Tl. 1
It. Lire 10.40	Y. 1

Week's Exchange Notes

Dec. 15

At the close of business on the 13th instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 23,126,000 and \$2,372,000.

These figures include Tls. 8,540,000 and \$16,420,000 in Chinese banks in which there were 1,306 bars.

BAR SILVER.

Arrivals were:—
3,617 bars from America.
85 " " London.

3,702 bars.

Shipments were:—
300 bars to Nanking.
218 " " Hangchow.
106 " " Foochow.

624 bars.

SYCEE.

Arrivals were:—
Nil.

Shipments were:—
Tls. 1,230,000 to Nanking.
990,000 " Hangchow.

Tls. 2,220,000

DOLLARS.

Arrivals were:—
\$1,360,000 from Hangchow
1,120,000 " Nanking.
200,000 " Chinkiang.

\$2,680,000

Shipments were:—
\$1,210,000 to Hankow and
River ports
500,000 " Tientsin.
200,000 " Dairen.
200,000 " Changchun.
100,000 " Hongkong.
100,000 " Tsingtao.

\$2,310,000

SILVER.

Notwithstanding the fact that shipments by last week's steamer were the latest which could reach Shanghai to be available before China New Year, the price in London has advanced ½d. for spot and ⅓d. for forward delivery during the week, the price on Thursday being 33½d. ready and 32½d. forward as against 33d. spot and 32½d. forward last week. The price of ready silver on Tuesday and Thursday was the top notch price recorded during the year. During the week China was as a rule a small seller, India bought, but apparently the market was very confined and offerings small. Reports of fresh trouble in Mexico are affecting the offerings of silver from that quarter. The price of silver in America on Thursday was 66½ delivery San Francisco, buyers but no sellers. The New York—London cross rate on Thursday was 4.37½.

EXCHANGE.

Business has been moderately brisk during the week and export bills have been more in evidence. The market has been very steady both for ready and forward delivery. A great many of the operations reported have, however, been crosses and balancing between ready and forward and in some instances as high as 1d. difference has been paid on one month's delivery. The quoted rate at closing last Friday was 3/3d. at which it remained till Monday forenoon, when it advanced to T.T. 3/3½d. On opening on Tuesday the rate was unchanged but early in the morning advanced to

T.T. 3/3½d. and on opening in the afternoon went up to T.T. 3/4d. the present level at which the market is firm with sellers at T.T. 3/4½d. cash, T.T. 3/4 December, G.\$T.T. 73½ is offering for cash T.T. 72½ Dec. For Bills 4 m/s L/C 3/5d. December, 3/3½d. January and G.\$ 4 m/s L/C 74½ December, 74 January.

SHANGHAI MARKET
REPORT

The Local Cotton and Yarn Position: Further Short Time in Several Mills

Dec. 15

The cotton position is once more the predominant feature of the markets. The fluctuations in American cotton have been followed with interest in the piece goods market, and on every fall there have been attempts to do business, but any that has occurred has been of very small volume. Following the position of American cotton, the China staple has shown a rather easier tendency during the week but closes firmer, little business having taken place. Yarn has been dull, and in view of the difficult position owing to the high price of cotton, there is an anticipation several of the mills finding it necessary to curtail work drastically if not to shut down in the near future. The final American cotton estimate has now made its appearance. The whole export market has been dull during the week.

PIECE GOODS.

In piece goods conditions have not materially altered since last week, the principal items of interest being a slightly improved inquiry from the north and the despatch of several shipments to Szechuan which province, on account of political troubles, has done little or nothing for some time past. Offers have gone forward to Manchester, induced by the drop in the price of cotton, but the higher prices which have followed have excluded the possibility of any but the most limited business.

As a result of the conditions noted above, the greatest interest centres in the auctions, the course of which demonstrates that the market is very much under the influence of the pronounced shortage of stocks. Notwithstanding the continued tightness of money there has been a brisker inquiry and in several lines prices have again advanced. The week's operations suggest very strongly that neither the financial stringency nor fluctuations in American cotton are factors of sufficient strength to overcome the position caused by the low level of supplies here.

Woollens—Owing to the tightness of money and general mildness of the weather hitherto, no interest has been taken in the woollen market during the past

week, and unless Japan calls for supplies it appears to be doubtful whether any considerable amount of business can be expected before China New Year. Home reports indicate a firm market there. There was a further advance in prices at the December wool sales both for merinos and cross-breeds.

COTTON AND YARN.

China Cotton — During the greater part of the week China cotton has been easier, this not only on account of the drop in American prices but also because of fears arising from the uncertain local political situation. At the close, however, prices are again stronger. The quotations given on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange are as follows:—December 45.05; January 45.25; February 45.40; March 45.60; April 45.85; May 45.95. A report regarding the cotton operations on the exchange states:—"The near months have declined more than the forward months owing to money tightness. The general sentiment of the market is bearish. Cotton is down owing to the mills working short, in consequence of which the demand for raw material has decreased. In the market there are more numerous than buyers and actual demand is poor, all exports to Japan have been stopped owing to the exchange banks not being willing to buy export bills." Closing market prices are as follow:—Tungchow Tls. 47; Hokoshi Tls. 45; Nanzu Tls. 43½; Shensi Tls. 45½; Kashing Tls. 43½; Hankow Tls. 42½; Shanghai Tls. 45; Ningpo Tls. 42½.

Yarn—The demand for yarn continues small, trade being still hampered by the tightness of money. Dealers are not inclined to a preference for next year. Cloth has been better and some sales have taken place. As a result of the absence of demand for yarn more mills are every day closing on short time, and it looks as if by China New Year things will be worse still. In the circumstances there will almost certainly be more short time and some mills may have to close down altogether. On the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange the following prices for yarn are quoted:—December 171; January 174.10; February 176.40; March 177.40; April 177.50; May 177.40.

SILK.

Business in silk is very quiet, and there is no inquiry. No activity is likely until after the New Year, when stock-taking operations will have been completed.

PRODUCE.

Seeds—The market is dull, with little business reported. Home buyers appear to have little interest in present China values, and local holders so far decline to meet their views.

Groundnuts—On account of previous heavy purchases for December/January shipment, supported by a steady demand from south China, native holders are maintaining a firm attitude.

Wool—Lack of supplies continues to prevent the possibility of business.

In other lines there is nothing to report.

Anglo-Persian Oil Co.

London, Dec. 10.

The Anglo-Persian Oil Company's profit for the year ended March 31, after allowing for depreciation, interest on debentures, home charges and royalty, amounted to £2,689,000, which, with a balance of £1,739,000 brought forward from 1922 and less the Corporation Tax payable for 1921-1922, makes a total profit of £4,025,000. A balance of £1,777,000 was carried forward after making all appropriations.—Reuter.

Rubber Production in the Philippines

Manila, Nov. 26.

Members of the mission sent by the United States Department of Agriculture to study the question of rubber production in the Philippines, methods of planting, labour problems and the feasibility of extending plantation work to various sections of the archipelago, began their investigations on the Island of Basilan. After studying the methods employed on the few small plantations on Basilan, the party will proceed to Cotabato province where rubber is grown in small quantities. It is said that the mission will spend several weeks in that region where there are large tracts of virgin lands suitable for rubber growing. Later they will go to the Island of Jolo to continue field work. The mission expects to finish all the field work early next year and then return to Manila where the data collected will be compiled.—Reuter.

Bank of Japan's Specie Reserve

Tokio, Dec. 11.

The Bank of Japan announces that its specie reserve at the end of November amounted to Y.1,723,000,000, showing a decrease of Y.57,000,000. The total maintained overseas is Y.512,000,000.—Reuter.

Foreign Exchange

New York, Dec. 7.

Sterling broke three cents on the opening of the market to-day as a result of the British elections, but later recovered one cent. Francs and other Continental exchanges moved in sympathy.—Reuter's American Service.

Royal Dutch Dividend

The Hague, Dec. 8.

The Royal Dutch Petroleum Co. has declared an interim dividend of 10 per cent.—Reuter.

GOODYEAR TIRE COMPANY

An Airship Contract with the Zeppelin Company

New York, Nov. 17.

Mr. E. G. Wilmer, president of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, to-day announced that negotiations have been concluded with the Zeppelin Company whereby a new company, subsidiary to the Goodyear Company, would soon be organized for the purpose of manufacturing lighter than air ships and all supplies required by that branch of aviation.

The new company, it was stated, will be managed and controlled by the Goodyear interests, and the Zeppelin interests will receive a minority interest in the company in exchange for their patent rights and the services of their technical staff. No cash consideration is involved, it was said.—Reuter.

U. S. Business Conditions

The following cablegram regarding business conditions in the United States has just been received by the Office of the American Commercial Attaché, Shanghai, from the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, D.C.:—

Exports October \$13,500,000; Imports \$16,800,000.

Financial situation excellent.

Funds abundant and rates low.

Steel production lower.

Textile and automobile production increasing.

Price cotton 30 cts. (?), other commodities declining.

Railroad situation materially improved.

Outlook promising.

American Commercial Attaché

An advance step in the furtherance of the work of the United States Department of Commerce in China is noted in an announcement by the office of the Commercial Attaché that its organization is to be strengthened by the consolidation of all accounting work and disbursements under one head. In order to carry out this new arrangement, Mrs. J. C. Hammond, who was formerly in charge of the Foreign Trade Department of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, has been appointed Special Disbursing Agent, and authorized to assume full responsibility in connexion with all fiscal matters affecting the operations of the Commercial Attaché's offices in Peking and Shanghai.

British Trade Returns

London, Dec. 12.

The Board of Trade returns for November show that exports totalled £65,768,000, a decrease of £5,554,000 as compared with October, and imports £101,584,000, an increase of £1,670,000.—Reuter.

British Empire Zinc**Combination**

London, Dec. 6.

In connexion with the Empire zinc combination, it is understood that the National Smelting Company are arranging to acquire the Swansea Vale and Avonmouth zinc undertakings and will offer for sale £1,500,000 7 per cent. first mortgage debentures. They are also acquiring 4,000,000 shares at 10 rupees each in the Burma Corporation. It is stated that the capital will be £650,000 in 8 per cent. cumulative participating preference shares, and £1,000,000 ordinary shares both at £1 each, and £50,000 deferred shares at one shilling each. The Avonmouth and Swansea Vale properties represent a total capital expenditure considerably exceeding £2,000,000. Mr. Baldwin's British Metal Corporation and Australian mining and smelting interests are reported to be concerned in the deal.—Reuter.

Shell Dividend

London, Dec. 7.

The Shell Transport & Trading Co. has declared a dividend of two shillings free from tax.—Reuter.

With reference to the announcement of a dividend of two shillings per share free of income tax payable on January 5 on shares of the Shell Transport & Trading Co., Ltd., the Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China has received information that the coupon to be presented is No. 42.

France's Coal Output

Paris, Dec. 8.

The newspapers note that for the first time since the war the monthly production of the French coal-mines exceeded the pre-war figures. The total production in October 1923 was 4,403,695 tons as against 3,689,858 tons in October, 1913. This situation is due, firstly, to the great efforts made in the Nord and Pas de Calais coal basing to reconstruct the devastated districts and, secondly, to the efforts in the Centre and South coal fields and in the mines of Lorraine.—French Wireless through Reuter.

Shanghai Tramways

The following is the traffic return of the Shanghai Tramways for the week ended December 12, with figures for the corresponding week last year:—

	1923.	1922.
Gross receipts	\$77,999.89	\$72,915.95
Loss by currency depreciation	33,865.71	29,797.47
Effective receipts	\$44,134.18	\$43,118.49
Percentage of loss by currency depreciation	44.75	42.64
Car miles run	115,028	113,747
Passengers carried	2,685,061	2,553,517

Coal Output

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending December 1 amounted to 108,912 tons and the sales during the same period to 95,381 tons.

Small Investors' Co., Ltd.

At 4 p.m. on Wednesday it was announced that the Small Investors' Co., Ltd. had been over-subscribed.

THE SMALL INVESTORS' CO.

41 SZECHUEN ROAD, Shanghai

Phone: C. 977 and 761

NOTE

CAPITAL INVESTED, with dividends or Interest payable every six months.

- At 7 per cent. Doubles itself in 10 years
- At 8 per cent. Doubles itself in 9 years
- At 9 per cent. Doubles itself in 8 years
- At 10 per cent. Doubles itself in 7 years

START TO-DAY TO DOUBLE YOUR CAPITAL

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The China Mutual Life Insurance Co. Ltd.

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HEAD OFFICE: SHANGHAI

LAW REPORTS

BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE CREST

Quarrels Between the Proprietor and His Employees: Trouble Over a Russian Woman

Evidence of an amusing character was heard in H. M. Supreme Court last Friday, when the hearing was begun before his Honour Judge Grain of an action by Lloyd E. Brown, an American citizen, against Frank H. Hyde, proprietor of the Crest Hotel, 231 Avenue Haig, for alleged wrongful dismissal. Plaintiff claimed \$2,666.67 for arrears in salary and living expenses. The defence pleaded justification and set forth a number of acts of alleged misconduct. Mr. Tycho Wing appeared for plaintiff and Mr. M. Reader Harris for defendant.

Mr. Tycho Wing, said that the plaintiff had been in the hotel business in his own country for 10 years. Just before coming to Shanghai he was engaged at an hotel in Manila, of which Mrs. Brown had been appointed receiver. That receivership came to an end towards the end of last year, when Mrs. Brown came to Shanghai with her husband, who wanted to see what opportunities were offered in his line of business here. He made Mr. Hyde's acquaintance. Perhaps the engagement he afterwards took was not quite what he wanted, but he became manager of the Crest Hotel, of which defendant was proprietor, at a salary of \$350 per month. The Crest Hotel was an hotel perhaps not of the residential order. It depended on its receipts from custom at nights, or rather in the early hours of the morning. The nature of the business was a little different from that to which plaintiff had been used. After he had been there some time on a salary of \$350, which included board and lodging, there was an agreement reached to employ him for a period of six months at a considerably increased salary.

On April 9, Mrs. Hyde, defendant's wife, went to hospital seriously ill and afterwards died. She was American born and on that account there was a certain sympathy between her and Mrs. Brown and the latter was introduced into the position occupied by the deceased. A Russian lady came to live matrimonially with Mr. Hyde. Counsel did not mention this fact with any scandalous intention, but because it was an explanation of the case.

On April 12, Mrs. Hyde died in hospital. Then occurred the first of the events leading to plaintiff's dismissal. The suggestion was put forward to Mr. and Mrs. Brown that the defendant and the Russian lady should go as a party of four to the funeral of Mrs. Hyde. The execrable bad taste of the

suggestion elicited perhaps rather outspoken comment on the part of plaintiff's wife, who said she certainly would not go in such circumstances, in company with this Russian lady. Any reasonable existence in common between Mrs. Brown and the Russian lady afterwards became exceedingly difficult. After the funeral, Mr. Hyde put forward another suggestion, that then they should go as a party of four to have tea at the Astor House Hotel, and again Mrs. Brown refused.

In the statement of the defence, it was alleged that on April 20 plaintiff struck his wife in the hotel and rendered her unconscious for a period of 20 minutes, and that she had to be carried up to her room by defendant and the Russian woman. What actually happened was that plaintiff accidentally struck his wife while preventing her from responding too energetically to the attacks made on her by the Russian woman. It was untrue that defendant helped to assist plaintiff's wife to her room.

ESCAPE THROUGH A WINDOW.

Mrs. Hyde had left her personal effects to two theatrical people, a Mr. and Mrs. Leeds, who were no longer in Shanghai. Defendant had mislaid an ivory-mounted stick. He asked plaintiff and his wife to visit these people, and find out whether by accident the stick had been included amongst the effects. While they were in the bathroom examining a trunk, Hyde came into the adjoining room. They overheard a conversation between Hyde and these people, the substance of which was that Hyde was going to get rid of plaintiff because Mrs. Brown would not be friendly with somebody defendant called "my kid." When Hyde was reminded that plaintiff was working under an agreement, Hyde said he would make things so unpleasant for him that he would want to leave. It was also alleged, counsel proceeded, that Mrs. Brown created a disturbance one night and let herself down from her bedroom window by tying together a sheet and a counterpane. On the night of June 17 plaintiff and his wife came back to the hotel at 10.30. It being a night restaurant, it was convenient for the staff to have dinner at any time. They got a message that dinner was finished and they could have nothing to eat at all. Mrs. Brown took it very amiss, so plaintiff, in the interests of peace and harmony, locked her in her room, afterwards remonstrating with Hyde against this fresh exhibition, saying it was an extraordinary lack of consideration. Mrs. Brown was indignant and decided to leave the hotel at once. She got out of the bedroom window into the garden. She had to pass by a window where this Russian woman was sitting and the latter struck at her with a stick. She was in such a state of mind that she picked up a handful of pebbles and threw

them at the window at which the Russian lady was sitting.

"BRASS NUTS."

Plaintiff gave evidence bearing out counsel's statement. Referring to the alleged statement of Hyde's to Mr. and Mrs. Leeds in the Savoy Hotel that he would dismiss plaintiff, witness said he overheard part of the conversation. He heard Mrs. Leeds re-Defendant replied that he did not worry about that. "We will make things too hot for him, because I have got another man coming out," he said. It was suggested that there might be trouble between Mrs. Brown and the Russian woman. Hyde replied that he would not worry about that either. He had a special pair of "brass nuts" which could be used on Mrs. Brown.

His Lordship—What does the term "brass nuts" mean?

Witness—A brass contraption which you put on your hand if you hit anybody. It would be a very serious injury, I should imagine.

Continuing, witness spoke of his relations with the Russian lady and defendant in the course of his management. There were several Russian girls working for them, he said. She told them different things, so they refused to pay any attention to witness. One girl refused to stop at a table because witness was there with some friends. There were all sorts of events of that kind. He had said that defendant was one of the rottenest men he had ever met and that if Hyde were 20 years younger he would show him what he thought of him.

With regard to the incident of June 17, his wife said she was going to leave at once. She let herself down from the window with a sheet and a counterpane.

Counsel—Did she get down safely?

Witness—She seemed to.

Witness went on to say that he thought Mrs. Brown might have talked rather loudly, but there were no visitors anywhere near.

"BOSS OF THE PLACE."

Cross-examined, witness said he had managed an hotel at Nome, Alaska. His connexion with hotels probably did not last for more than two years. On joining Hyde, witness said he had no experience in the café business. At first he received \$300 and \$50 for his wife, with board and lodging in addition. There was never any definite time for dinner. At the time the agreement was drawn up witness said he wanted to leave because of the trouble at the café. Defendant was always quarrelling with his wife. He had never wanted to buy the Crest. On April 9 he was very tired of the whole proposition. After the Russian woman came she wanted to be boss of the place, said witness. He did not consider that he was hired by her. He took his orders from Mr. Hyde.

Mr. Reader Harris—On the 20th you had a quarrel with your wife? She was very jealous with regard

to a certain Russian woman with whom you had been sitting?

Witness—Yes.

She came into the bar and had two brandies and sodas?—Yes.

Didn't you continue the quarrel in the bar?—I told her to go upstairs and not to make any noise.

You struck your wife in the mouth and it bled and she fell down unconscious at the bottom of the stairs?—I did strike her, but she was never unconscious.

In answer to further questions witness admitted going across the road to the Del Monte during working hours, though as a matter of fact the latter had never been prescribed. He stayed there for 10 minutes and had a bottle of beer. On leaving the Del Monte, the Crest No. 7 boy met him. It was untrue that he said to the boy, "No talk Master I have drink Del Monte."

Witness denied that on the night his wife dropped from the window he created such a disturbance and was so abusive that Hyde got into his car personally to fetch the police. Defendant was in the habit of calling the police on a much smaller pretext.

Mr. Reader Harris—When the French Inspector arrived, your wife was already in the grounds, raving?—Yes, she was making quite a little noise.

You heard the Inspector say that if this kind of thing happened defendant would lose his licence?—Yes, but that was not the first experience in the Crest of that kind.

AT ANOTHER CAFE.

After leaving the Crest witness said he remained with the Café Royal, in which he obtained employment, until the place was closed.

Mr. Reader Harris—That was the café that advertised in the Press that people who did not pay their chits would have their names published.

On Hallow'een (witness continued in answer to Mr. Harris) after he had been to a wedding, he met Messrs. Hyde, Webb and Neut at Maxim's. It was about 3 o'clock in the morning. He could not remember telling Hyde that all the trouble had finished and witness was getting back his papers from Major Holcomb.

Re-examined, witness said a good many girls went to the Crest as professional dancers. They danced with visitors and received a salary for their services. There were frequently quarrels among the girls. It was part of witness's duties to see that these girls were kept in order.

Counsel—Did Mrs. Brown always understand that?—(Witness.)—I do not think at that time she did.

His Lordship—What does tact imply and how far does it go?

HARD TALKING.

Counsel—Perhaps the witness will tell us? (to witness) You did find sometimes that a little diplomacy was required?

Witness—I had to talk hard.

His Lordship—Some of them had to be coaxed?

Witness—The coaxing process would have been all right if Mr. Hyde had not gone to Mrs. Brown and told her a lot of things which did not go on.

Mrs. Georgia Brown, plaintiff's wife, said there had always been trouble in the Crest since they went there. "I tied a couple of sheets together and let myself down because I did not want to be locked in my room," said witness in answer to Mr. Wing.

Counsel—Was it a great height you fell from?—It was the second storey, the floor above the ground floor, about 15 feet.

Counsel—Did that seem to you a very dangerous athletic feat?—I would not do it again.

In answer to Mr. Reader Harris, witness said she was never jealous of her husband, but she objected to the way he ran the business.

Mr. Reader Harris—I put it to you that when you were raving drunk you abused Mr. Hyde through the window?—I was angry.

So you still say that you were sober when you clambered out of the window? Do you frequently climb out of windows?—No, I do not make a habit of it.

At this point his Lordship said the case seemed to him to be a quarrel among a parcel of women. "These women are putting forward their menfolk to fight their quarrels in public. If they could realize how stupid these women are making them, I think they would be much wiser men if they came to some agreement. Every answer always comes back to what one woman has said or what one woman has done. I have had an opportunity as an unbiassed person to listen carefully to all the facts. My opinion is that this is a dispute which should not come before the public."

His Lordship then left the court.

THE SHOOTING CASE IN YALU ROAD

"The Man of Many Languages" and his Chinese Friends: A Question of Motives

The trial of Samuel Clarence Cairus Vaughan in connexion with the Yalu Road restaurant shooting affair opened on Tuesday in H.M. Supreme Court before his Honour Judge Grain and a jury—Messrs. F. L. Ball, H. L. Clarke, R. J. Anwyl, A. C. Ellis and F. W. S. Evans. The charge against accused was that, on the night of November 3, he wounded a Chinese girl named Kuei Lin (otherwise Ah Moy) with intent to murder her, and to this charge he pleaded not guilty.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, conducted the prosecution, and Mr. K. E. Newman was for the defence.

In opening the case for the prosecution, the Crown Advocate first congratulated the jurors that there were only five of them in the box instead of 12, the case be-

ing a comparatively simple one of wounding and without the subconscious distractions in a case of murder. They would have no difficulty in finding that accused shot at the girl. That was common ground between the prosecution and the defence. Where the prosecution and the defence would differ would be, first, on the question as to whether accused was shooting at himself, or at the girl, or at nothing in order to frighten her; and there was the further point, if they found he did shoot her, and that was, his intention. On the point as to whether accused intended to shoot himself, counsel observed that, if he had proposed to commit suicide in a dramatic way, this restaurant was hardly the place to go to, since he could not be sure that the girl would be there. It would have been just as easy, and more dramatic, to have gone to the brothel and have shot himself there. The fact that accused put the pistol to his own mouth after the girl had been shot was no proof at all in support of the suggestion that accused attempted to commit suicide and that the girl was accidentally shot.

Dr. R. J. Marshall was then called and described the wound inflicted by a revolver shot of small calibre. There was no doubt but that the shot had been directed straight at the woman, and appearances were consistent with the shot having been fired at a range of 5ft.

Chief Inspector Cruickshank, who placed accused under arrest after he had been brought to Gordon Road police station, said he was satisfied that Vaughan clearly understood what was said to him, although at first he seemed to be a bit dazed. He was not drunk, but had been drinking. After he had been warned, accused asserted that he knew nothing at all about it.

A PREVIOUS TRAGEDY.

In answer to Mr. Newman, witness agreed that, just prior to this affair, there had been some trouble in the Gordon Road neighbourhood, a Chinese having been found murdered outside the Waterworks compound.

P. C. Tabrum, who was despatched to Kiaochow Road waterworks to await the possible arrival of the accused, stated that he arrived in a ricksha about 2.15 a.m., without hat or overcoat. Accused walked to the police station, and was able to talk coherently.

The proprietor of the Yalu Road restaurant then told his story, beginning by saying that the accused had patronized his house during the past two years. He was known as "Sammy," and had, also, a Chinese name meaning "the man of many languages" (dialects). He had been in the habit of calling at the house to meet the girl Ah Moy. On the evening in question, she came into the restaurant with another girl, while witness was preparing some food for accused. Witness was in

the kitchen when the shot was fired. He ran out and, taking accused by the arm, asked him why he had fired at the girl. His reply was: "If you are scared, I will shoot myself." "And you also," he added, "if you do not let me go." So saying, he put the revolver into his pocket, and walked out of the restaurant, leaving his hat and coat on the peg.

In answer to Mr. Newman, witness said he did not see accused point the pistol to his own mouth and pull the trigger without discharging the weapon.

A Montenegrin cigarette merchant, Andgouchitch, repeating his account of the affair, said that accused drew the revolver and fired almost immediately at the girl.

THE GIRL'S EVIDENCE.

On resuming in the afternoon, the complainant, Ah Moy, was called. She stated that she had known the accused for four months, and for two months as an occasional visitor at 54 Yalu Road. On the evening in question, a girl friend invited witness to go to the restaurant, where, unexpectedly, they saw defendant. He told witness not to be scared.

Counsel—Why should he say that?

Witness—I cannot say. He asked me if I was scared, and before I could answer he fired his revolver and I fell to the floor.

Counsel—Are you engaged to be married?

Witness—I want to be married.

His Lordship—Ah, that's a different thing.

Counsel—Were you engaged to be married before the shooting took place?

Witness—Yes. But nobody wants me now.

Vaughan knew of her approaching marriage, added witness, who concluded her evidence by saying that she was 24 years of age, and had lived for four years in a licensed house.

This was the case for the Crown.

THE DEFENCE.

There being only one witness for the defence—accused himself—he was at once called to give evidence. He stated that he was employed by the Shanghai Waterworks Co. as foreman in charge of the pumping works and reservoirs at Kiaochow Road. On the Saturday night in question he went to this restaurant because the proprietor owed him some money, and also because he could get a cheap meal there. He was not "under the influence of drink." Whilst he was waiting for the food to be served, complainant came in and they had some conversation together. She invited him to remain, he explained that he could not—having to go on duty that night, and this brought a sarcastic smile to complainant's face. Witness pulled out his revolver and said "You know what this is for"—meaning, she knew he took it to work for protection of himself and the company's property against thieves and robbers; and as he held it in his hand the thing

went off. The sight of the girl falling down made witness turn faint and terribly afraid, so that he staggered back a few paces on seeing what he had done. Saying "I'll kill myself," witness put the revolver to his mouth and pulled the trigger two or three times but it did not go off although there was one chamber loaded. Something told witness he had better leave the place, and on getting outside he threw the revolver away; then went to the Wayport Rooms and had drink after drink in order to try and forget what had happened. From there, he went to the Public Gardens and sat there thinking the matter over, and finally he went to the Waterworks.

In answer to further questions, witness said he was not jealous of the girl, had never threatened her, and never intended to hurt her.

Witness explained, in cross-examination by the Crown Advocate, that he drew his revolver to show it to complainant because she would then understand he was going on duty; otherwise, it would not have been in his pocket. The reason why he did not sit down at the restaurant was that, while waiting for the food, he was sky-larking with the landlady, having a reputation in the house of being a humorous person; in short, being known as "a bit of a devil." He was quite sober when he entered the restaurant. He was nearly paralysed with fright when the shooting took place.

Accused concluded by saying that he was a married man, and was and still is on good terms with his wife.

In his closing speech, the Crown Advocate suggested to the Jury that if the affair was an accident as suggested by accused, the person who must have been hit was the cigarette merchant—unless accused were left-handed (which had not been stated).

ABSENCE OF MOTIVE.

For the defence, Mr. Newman said the Jury had a very simple set of facts to deal with and it was up to them to decide whether a man such as Vaughan had given a true account of what occurred that evening. Counsel commented strongly upon the absence of motive—an important part of the case skimmed over lightly by the prosecution—and went on to say there was no doubt but that Vaughan, who was an excitable person, acted in a very stupid manner after the incident. He should have gone straight to the nearest police station and have reported that he had accidentally shot the girl, but he seemed to share the general idea—not always a safe one—that a man in trouble should keep his mouth shut. Another point in favour of the accused was that no one in the room actually saw him raise his arm and point the revolver at the girl.

In summing up, his Lordship informed the Jury that if they did not find that the accused wounded the girl with intent to murder, they might find him

guilty of unlawful wounding, but in either case there must be "intent." As to the contention that the shooting was accidental, his Lordship observed that, if it were an accident, it was singular that he did not say so immediately it occurred. Instead of this, what he did (according to the restaurant keeper), was to threaten to shoot the proprietor and then himself, when asked why he shot the girl, and then flew out of the place without saying a word. It was for the jury to consider whether there was any ground for the only defence to the charge, viz., that it was a pure accident.

The jury retired to consider their verdict, and returned in a quarter of an hour with a request for more evidence on accused's statement that when he produced the revolver the girl understood it to mean that he had to go on duty that night.

Complainant, recalled, said that accused only said "Are you scared?" when he produced the revolver, and did not say "You know what it is for."

The jury again retired and were absent for a further 30 minutes. On their return, they brought in a verdict of "not guilty" of wounding with intent to murder, and/or unlawful wounding, and prisoner was accordingly discharged.

His Lordship thanked the jury for their service, and added that he was much obliged to Mr. Newman for the able way in which he had conducted the defence, as prisoner would also be.

H. M. SUPREME COURT

A Company with a Double Registry, British and Chinese

The affairs of a business said to be registered in Hongkong as a British company and in Peking as a Chinese company were before his Honour Judge Grain in H. M. Supreme Court on Monday. The Kiangnan Dock & Engineering Co. brought a claim against the Hing Wah Paste Manufacturing Co. for Tls. 56,570, balance of account due on a contract in writing dated October 21, 1921, for the purchase of a 500 b.h.p. gas engine, and three gas producers, and Tls. 159 wages for three watchmen from December 16, 1922, to April 11, 1923, with interest from December 16, 1922, until date of payment. Plaintiffs also asked for a declaration that the machinery and equipment are their property until payment, and for an order that, unless payment is made within two days from date of judgment, plaintiffs have liberty to remove the machinery from defendants' premises.

A Chinese who came forward and said that he represented the defendants admitted that there was a balance due of Tls. 56,999.

His Honour—That is more than they claim.

Mr. J. H. Teesdale, (for plaintiffs) asked for judgment

for the amount claimed, with interest.

His Honour—How does the interest come in? It is not mentioned in the agreement.

Mr. Teesdale—I ask for it on the ground of custom of trade. The defendants have paid only one instalment, in October, 1921. A second instalment was due in May, 1922, and a third in July, and as they were not paid I could prove satisfactorily that, according to the custom of trade, interest would be chargeable.

The defendant's representative stated that he was no longer connected with the concern, having ceased to be manager in March last. He had no power to consent to judgment. The company was now in liquidation, and its Shanghai property was in the hands of the Chinese court.

Mr. Teesdale—They have no jurisdiction whatever. The property belongs to the liquidator. The company has been registered at Hongkong as a British company and this witness's name is on the register here as manager. They have two valuable mills in Shanghai.

Mr. L. K. Kentwell—I understand the company is also registered at Peking as a Chinese company.

His Honour adjourned the case to allow plaintiffs to communicate with the liquidator at Hongkong, and serve the writ anew.

There was a second case against the company, Mr. A. Corrit claiming Tls. 2,420 balance due to him for services as consulting engineer in the erection of the company's godowns. The claim consisted of 2½ per cent. commission on the contract price, Tls. 137,235, less Tls. 1,000 paid on account.

Mr. Kentwell appeared for plaintiff, and an adjournment was granted as in the preceding case.

M. Fredericks v. T. W. Bown

Thomas William Bown appeared on a judgment summons for Tls. 1,009 taken out against him by M. Fredericks.

In reply to Mr. Mansel Reere, for plaintiff, defendant said he was a ship broker, and also engaged in import and export business. His business during the past month had been nil, but, as was usual in the ship broking business, he had business in hand which took a great deal of time to complete. A judgment had just been given in his favour in South Africa for £20,000, but of course he had not yet received payment. As far as he knew, there had been no appeal. At the present moment he was being financed by friends. They knew that, as an honourable man, he would repay them as soon as he received money due to him. He had offered plaintiff a second mortgage on a piece of land (belonging to his wife) but this had been refused. Defendant knew of his position, yet continued to persecute him, and wit-

ness was afraid that, if the case got into the newspapers, it would mean loss of business.

His Honour adjourned the case *sine die*.

A Promissory Note Claim

Frank Tonnochy, of the International Secret Service and Employment Agency, 24 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, was sued by Inder Singh, for the payment of \$360, balance of money due on a promissory note. His Honour Judge Grain spent some time in attempting to unravel the case, defendant asserting that he had never seen plaintiff, having borrowed the money from Sarjan Singh. He called the latter to prove this, but Sarjan stoutly contended that he had never lent defendant any money at all. Plaintiff, on the other hand, stated that he was suing on a power of attorney given to him by Munda Singh, who had been unable to collect the debt before he left Shanghai.

As the promissory note produced was in the defendant's handwriting, and admittedly signed by him, his Honour gave judgment for the amount claimed, with costs.

A VENTURE IN JOURNALISM

Claim for Goods Supplied: Defendant's Statement of Alleged Partnership

The Oriental Press Company were plaintiffs in a case which came before his Honour Judge Grain at H.M. Supreme Court on Thursday claiming \$2,210.88 from Mr. E. A. Paige for goods sold and delivered and printing work done between September 4 and 29.

Mr. J. G. Priestwood, for plaintiffs, put in an affidavit showing that the work had been done and that plaintiffs considered there was no defence to the action, and asked for judgment, under rule 101.

Defendant explained that towards the end of August he approached Mr. P. L. Bickel, assistant manager of the Oriental Press, with a view to publishing a paper called "Shanghai Answers," and he agreed to become a partner and to put in Tls. 2,000. There was no deed of partnership and the arrangement was only verbal, Mr. Bickel not wishing to have his connexion with the paper disclosed, and for this reason witness said nothing about it to anybody. The present debts were incurred in connexion with this paper, which failed. Had it made profits, Mr. Bickel would have shared them. When the account was sent in witness wrote to Mr. Bickel reminding him of the partnership, which he disclaimed.

His Lordship—How much did you put into the paper?

Witness—Roughly about \$2,000. I paid three months' salary to one

man, provided \$900 in prizes, paid Tls. 110 rent, and other expenses.

Mr. Priestwood—This partnership was never in any way communicated to the Oriental Press. It was kept secret.

Witness—That was because Mr. Bickel wished it.

Mr. Priestwood—You never mentioned the partnership until after the debt had been incurred and they pressed you for payment.

Defendant—Not in writing.

His Honour—I think defendant has shown that he has a defence to the action.

Mr. Priestwood—Defendant admits that the contract was made between himself and plaintiffs and that they knew of no partnership. But that affords no defence, because he would be liable as partner. Further, his alleged partner is an American subject, not under the jurisdiction of this court, and if defendant has any claim against him he should sue him in the American court for contribution or indemnity. In English law partners are jointly liable for the debts of a partnership, irrespective of what they pay. The most that could be done would be to stay proceedings until Mr. Bickel is made a party, and inasmuch as he is not subject to the jurisdiction of this court we cannot bring him here.

His Honour said he was satisfied defendant had a defence to the action, and made an order for the filing of a defence.

SIKH MONEYLENDERS

Chinese Clients Alleged by Defendant to Have Run Away

A Sikh money lender said to be drawing \$200 a month interest on his various loans appeared before his Honour Judge Grain on Thursday on a judgment summons for \$300.

Plaintiff, also a Sikh money lender, said that he obtained judgment a month ago and nothing had been paid. Defendant had advanced between \$5,000 and \$6,000 to Chinese borrowers, and recently at the Mixed Court got an order for payment of \$25 on a debt of \$500.

Defendant said that his Chinese clients ran away and he could not get his money. As to the Mixed Court cases, he was only representing his uncle.

Plaintiff—He collects \$200 or more each month in interest.

His Honour—I think you have got the money. If you won't pay you will have to go to prison.

Defendant—If plaintiff wants me to go to prison, will he keep my wife and family while I am there? I can pay \$5 a month.

His Honour—You can pay more than that. Unless you pay \$100 by January 1, you will have to go to gaol.

Mr. A. G. Henderson, general agent in the Orient of the Great Northern Railway, has been visiting Hongkong.

IDLE HANDS

Two unemployed seaman, M. Sullivan, of 58 Boone Road, and John Quinn, of the Hambury Institute, appeared before Mr. G. W. King in H. M. Police Court on Monday on a charge of having been drunk and disorderly on the previous day.

The police story was that the defendants—Sullivan, a coloured man over six feet, and Quinn, a much smaller individual—were found fighting in Woosung Road on Sunday evening. A Chinese packed Quinn off to Hongkew police station in a ricsha, and after a great deal of trouble he contrived to get Sullivan to the same destination. The two were put together in a cell, where, for a time, they continued to wrestle and make considerable noise.

The accused said they were unemployed and had no money. Neither had done any work for two or three months.

"It may be weak of me," said his Worship, in dismissing the pair with a caution, "but I am simply going to record a conviction against you. You can go now."

THE U. S. COURT FOR CHINA

Judgment on a Storage and Insurance Claim

In the United States Court for China on Saturday his Honour Judge C. S. Lobingier gave a written decision in the case of the Lee Hua Co., Ltd., v. the American Express Co., Inc. The judgment in part stated:—

In December, 1918, plaintiff, or one its members, consigned to a Seattle firm some 26½ tons of Wolframite ore, drawing through defendants drafts on the consignee which were dishonored. The ore was stored in certain Seattle warehouses by defendant, which conducted a lengthy correspondence with plaintiff, also advancing the charges for storage and insurance and frequently calling upon plaintiff for reimbursement.

Plaintiff's counsel in their able brief cite numerous authorities to the proposition that silence does not always give consent and we are not disposed to question that proposition, but we doubt if it applied in this case or that plaintiff's consent was necessary to effect a sale. Certainly if the original power had not been revoked defendant was entitled to exercise it in order to recover the long overdue charges and even the notice itself would seem to have been unnecessary. Nevertheless, notice both verbal and written was given and plaintiff was allowed nearly six months within which it might have prevented a sale by merely paying up the charges. On or about June 10, 1922, however, no payment having meanwhile been made, defendant sold

the ore and an account was transmitted by defendant's Shanghai office in its letter of July 21. It is suggested that this action was a breach of defendant's promise in its letter of December 19, 1921 "to continue holding it (the consignment) in Seattle." But, as we have construed it, this was not a definite undertaking, but an expression of willingness made subject to the condition stated in the same connexion that the charges would be paid.

In its letter of July 21, 1922, announcing the sale, defendant enclosed a cheque for the proceeds less its own charges, but the cheque was returned and the amount appears to be still due to plaintiff, though the tender of it should relieve defendant from the payment of costs. There is complaint as to some of the items of defendant's charges, but no sufficient evidence that they were unreasonable or unwarranted. It is accordingly considered and adjudged that plaintiff have and recover from the defendant the sum of Tls. 1,895.04.

RECEIVERSHIP CASE

Claim by New York Firm for Alleged Assets of Defunct Company

At the U. S. Court for China before his Honour Judge Lobingier the regular Monday motion day was held on Monday. The only criminal case on the calendar, the Government v. E. G. Hinde, was set for the Wednesday afternoon at 3 p.m., while the civil proceedings v. the same defendant, with Mr. A. Tuomala as plaintiff were set for hearing on December 27 at 9.30 a.m. Messrs. L. G. Husar and H. R. Snyder appeared, the former for plaintiff and the other for defendant.

The Henry v. Sochow Brick & Tile Co. case was placed on the calendar for December 31 at 9.30 a.m. Of the other cases for setting, Judge Lobingier suggested that a general call for calendar be instituted at some time at the end of the month as the Court would be busy until that time.

The receivership of the Stewart, Crane Co., Inc., was again the subject of law, and evidence was introduced with reference to the claim of the Stone Corporation of New York, Messrs. Shoop & Chalaire alleging that monies claimed by that company belonged to the assets of the defunct firm. Mr. Gardner Crane, witness, stated that his firm and the one in New York had a working agreement doing buying and selling for each other in Shanghai and New York. Referring to the soap consignment in 1920, he said that they had ordered the merchandise on drafts, but that extensions had been asked for and granted and he thought that they finally had been paid for by the Stone Corporation. Nothing was ever paid by

the Stewart, Crane Co., Inc. About a suit filed in the Mixed Court, he declared that that Court had granted judgment against the original purchaser for Tls. 30,000 and the guarantor for Tls. 10,000. Stewart, Crane had brought suit against the original purchaser, but the Stone Corporation was against the guarantor.

Mr. F. A. Bowen, receiver, stated that nothing had been paid the Stone Corporation on the loss by drafts.

Mr. C. S. Franklin outlined in the box certain figures given as evidence in the hearings at the Mixed Court, and then turned to Mr. Anthony for Shoop & Chalaire—You may cross-examine.

Mr. Anthony The testimony has been given as a lawyer, and I imagine it would be hard to cross-examine.

Witness—They say a lawyer makes the poorest witness.

In addressing the Court Mr. Anthony was of the opinion that the moneys received by the Stone Corporation at the Mixed Court were assets of the Stewart, Crane Co. The action was purely contractual and not a "measure of damages."

His Honour suggested memoranda.

THE ROOM HE WANTED

Detective's Smart Retort To Begging European: Why the Key Was Not Necessary

Vincent F. Bulgarelli, an Italian-American, formerly member of the crew of a U.S. Shipping Board vessel, appeared before Mr. N. E. Lurton, U.S. Commissioner, on Tuesday morning charged by the Municipal Police with being drunk and disorderly and with soliciting alms. Defendant had a bad history in Shanghai on a previous visit to the port and, when he was here a year ago, was sent Home by the Shipping Department of the American Consulate, but he returned to the Settlement several weeks ago and left the ship with an overcoat belonging to a friend which he pawned. He was sentenced to serve 30 days in gaol for the drunk and disorderly charge, pleading guilty, and was bound over to the higher Court on the vagrancy allegation. A detective sergeant, who desires that his name be kept from the papers for official reasons, told the Court that Bulgarelli had broached him and demanded money for a room—"Alright, I'll put you into a room," was his reply to the surprised offender.

As the prisoner was being led led upstairs to the cells, he turned to Mr. Van Buskirk, U. S. Deputy Marshal, and said, "You might as well throw the key away, I'll be here for some time."

The hypothecated overcoat has been recovered.

IMPORTANT POINT OF COMPANY LAW

Managing Director's Liability for Contempt in Mixed Court Over Unpaid Bond

The case of the General Electric Co. of China, Ltd., v. the Pao Cheng Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd., and Liu Pah-sung (managing director of the latter) again came before the Mixed Court last Friday. Judgment was given on August 29 by the Senior British Assessor awarding the plaintiffs a full verdict for payment of £48,471, plus interest. Hearings took place at the Mixed Court on October 29 and November 9, when the defendants were ordered to put up the usual post-judgment bond, pending settlement of the plaintiffs' claim. A further hearing took place on November 23, when the Court reserved its decision as to the detention of the managing director for contempt of Court in not putting up the bond as directed. Yesterday's hearing was before Mr. Martin (British Assessor) and the Chinese Magistrate. Mr. Teesdale represented the plaintiffs and Mr. Chalaire appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Teesdale—The Court will remember that the last hearing took place on November 23, when the Court wished to consider the application made on the subject of this post-judgment bond, but owing to the shortage of time, there was no opportunity for me to reply to defendants' Counsel. The hearing this morning is, I understand, to decide whether or not Liu Pah-sung should be detained for not putting up the post-judgment bond. I notice Liu Pah-sung is not in Court, and it seems to me rather a strange thing he should not be here, and I certainly would like his Counsel to explain the reason of his non-appearance.

Mr. Chalaire—I do not think there is any necessity for Liu Pah-sung to be here. As a matter of fact, Liu asked me if it was necessary he should be present, and I said not, so consequently he has another engagement this morning.

The Assessor—Who is responsible for his not being here?

Mr. Chalaire—I represent the defendant.

The Assessor—He should not have been advised not to attend.

Mr. Chalaire—The son of Liu Pah-sung is here and his secretary is here.

The Assessor—I think you should not have given him such advice.

Mr. Chalaire—I am sorry if the Court is not pleased, but it was my advice to him not to attend and I duly apologise for his non-appearance. With all due respect to the Courts, Liu Pah-sung is not the defendant. The defendant is a limited liability company and the defendant is represented here.

The Assessor—We say your client should have attended.

Mr. Teesdale—My application is that he should be arrested on this ground alone. The principal representative should be at Court

and not his son or secretary. I respectfully submit he should be arrested at once, not only for contempt of court, but for not putting up the post-judgment bond. Counsel for the judgment debtors stated that the Court was being used for a very immoral purpose, but I submit we do no more than ask the Court to carry out its own rules. Counsel for the judgment debtors further said that no Court in the world would arrest or detain a managing director of a company for not putting up a judgment bond. I am not prepared to say what the American law is on the subject but the English law is quite clear. If English law provides that the orders of a Court can be enforced and its dignity upheld by the arrest of the principal officials of a limited company, surely the Mixed Court, supported by their Rule 64, should carry out the same principle. My clients are in the unenviable position of watching the assets of the company disappearing by further mortgages, they holding nothing but an empty judgment. So my application is that the Court should carry out its rules and arrest the defendant, Liu Pah-sung.

Mr. Chalaire—Judgment has been rendered and there is no reason why the judgment debtors should not carry out its execution. The question of English law, or American law, or the law of any country, has no bearing on this Court, unless we find there is no Chinese law on this subject. On November 20 of this year, this Court rendered a judgment in the case of T. C. White against the Wah Chang Mining & Smelting Co. In that judgment, this Court recognised the limited liability not only of stockholders, but of managers and directors of any liability company.

The Assessor—The whole point is that of contempt of Court and the question is whether Liu Pah-sung could be arrested because of contempt of Court.

The Court eventually decided that the Pao Cheng Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd., should put up the post-judgment bond as ordered, at once, failing which, Liu Pah-sung, the managing director, is to be arrested and detained.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT CASE

Charge in U. S. Court by French School Teacher: Large Sums Involved

The trial took place on Wednesday afternoon in the United States Court for China, before his Honour Judge Lobingier, of Mr. E. G. Hinde, charged by Miss A. J. Woods with mishandling of funds entrusted by her to him a year ago last June. The accusation is one of embezzling, larceny by trick and device and obtaining funds under false pretences, the sums in question being two cheques, one for Tls.

3,000 and the other for Tls. 2,810, the former of which, it is stated, Hinde failed to deposit according to her instructions prior to buying gold dollars with it and the second a blank cheque, but signed by her, which he turned to his own use. Mr. L. G. Husar, U. S. District Attorney, prosecuted, while Mr. H. R. Snyder defended.

After Mr. Snyder had waived the reading of the charge Hinde pleaded not guilty to both counts and his counsel then asked that the witnesses for the prosecution should leave the room. Mr. Husar objected, saying that his only witness besides the complainant was Mr. F. J. Schuhl, co-counsel for the prosecution, who would merely give evidence as to several conversations in his office between Hinde, Miss Woods and himself.

Mr. Schuhl—I have no objections to leaving.

Mr. Husar—Neither have I, but he is counsel and should be allowed to remain.

Mr. Snyder—As both have no objections, let him leave.

Mr. Husar—Let the witnesses for the defence leave also.

His Honour—I think it would be better if all left.

Miss Woods then went into the box and stated that she had been teaching in the French Municipal School since 1917 and had met defendant at a house party at Hangchow at Easter time in 1921. At first they rarely met, but later she was invited to the Anderson, Meyer mess on numerous occasions and later saw him still more frequently. Accused had on a previous occasion handled about \$1,500 for her sister and bought gold and then some \$500 for herself.

Mr. Husar—State briefly yet in full to the Court just what happened in June 1922.

EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS.

Witness.—He had undermined my trust in the American Oriental Banking Corporation and further advised me to sell my shares in the Raven Trust Co., and I withdrew my funds from the bank and sold the shares. He went with me on the afternoon of June 16 to the International Banking Corporation, but as it was after banking hours I could not open the gold account, though we did open one in taels, using Tls. 200 for this purpose. Then I made out a cheque for Tls. 3,000 which I told him to give to the manager to place to my account the next day. He (Hinde) was to tell the bank when to buy gold at a favourable rate. I left for America on the following Sunday (it was Thursday afternoon when we went to the bank). With reference to the amount due to me from the French Municipal School, I was not sure just what it would come to, so I left the cheque in blank. He was to turn it into gold also at the best rate, according to his judgment, but I instructed the French Secretary to deposit it to my account at the International Bank.

Mr. Husar—What did you know of Mr. Hinde as a

business man? Witness.—He told me that he made a salary of \$10,000 per year and many commissions on business deals, that he had a house in Pennsylvania paying him G.\$85 a month income and another in Fairbanks, Alaska, which rental was G.\$125 per month. He said that he had made a great deal of money for another man on an exchange deal and I thought he could make some for me.

Mr. Husar.—What effect did this have on you?

Witness.—Why I never thought that he was in need of money. He entertained and lived well. I never dreamed that he would do anything like that. No question ever entered my mind with regard to his honesty.

A SURPRISE FROM THE BANK.

Miss Woods then said that when she arrived in Seattle she wanted to make certain that the manager had the cheque and accordingly wrote and told him to change the tael account into gold. "I was most surprised when he sent me G.\$1,000, because we had made no such arrangement and I wrote for an explanation in November 1922. Finally I received a reply, not at all satisfactory, which stated that living expenses in New York were high so he sent me the money. I had taken with me G.\$3,000. A statement from the bank showed me that I had but Tls. 102 and G.\$159 to my credit while a cabled confirmation verified these amounts."

In reply to Mr. Husar, witness stated that she had no thought of returning to China until the misfortune with her money. When she got here on September 29 Hinde came to see her that evening (a friend, according to his story, told him that he had seen her on the boat). He told her to come and see Captain Eisler with him who would explain how his money was tied up in litigation. "Captain Eisler told me that Hinde had tried to borrow Tls. 5,000 from him. He referred me to Mr. Schuhl. We had a conference in Mr. Schuhl's office and he wanted me to accept a note, but Mr. Schuhl insisted that a foreigner should guarantee it. Upon Mr. Hinde's suggestion of the compradore of Anderson & Meyer Co., we agreed to it, but his signature was never obtained.

Mr. Husar.—Did he ever explain why he took the money from the I.B.C.?

Witness.—Only to say that they paid such a low rate of interest, but he failed to mention the other bank.

Mr. Schuhl, with reference to the conferences in his offices, declared that accused tried to get some signatures to his promissory note but failed, and in the second talk in his (Mr. Schuhl's) office said that he was in litigation in the Mixed Court and hoped to win his case and get funds with which to pay Miss Woods.

PERSONAL RELATIONS.

After certain questions by Mr. Snyder, with reference to the financial relationship with ac-

cused, he asked Miss Woods—What was your relationship with Mr. Hinde?—We were good friends.

Mr. Snyder.—You were engaged?—No, it is not true that we were engaged.

Mr. Snyder.—Had he proposed?—He had asked me to become his wife, but I refused.

Mr. Snyder.—Did you allow him to entertain any spark of hope?

Mr. Husar.—I object to this line of questioning. I think that the feelings of this lady should be respected, as a legal matter it is not proper cross-examination. As an officer of this Court, I don't wish to hear such frivolous questions and do not care to have this lady held up to ridicule.

His Honour disallowed the question.

Witness then went on to state in reply to questions regarding an order to draw on Hinde for G.\$6,000, that he had never instructed her to do so and that she had never accepted. Continuing she declared that he was not told to keep the cheque for Tls. 3,000 but to give it to the manager of the bank and that he said the next day when he called with the bank book that he had done so that morning. On her return to China he admitted that he had drawn the money from the bank and by some mistake it had been credited to his firm's name. She had asked him how, but he could not explain.

Mr. H. Frick, assistant manager of the Equitable Eastern Bank, and Mr. Tien of the Chinese American Bank of Commerce identified certain documents and defendant then went into the box.

ACCUSED'S STATEMENT.

Mr. Hinde declared that Miss Woods had given him the money with instructions to invest it as he thought best and that he had invested it in his own company. He had guaranteed her a rate of 80 to 85. The first amount he drew on June 17, and the next for Tls. 2,810 on November 10, which he paid into his own account to invest into the company. When Miss Woods left Shanghai, he continued, they were engaged to be married, had been for two or three months. Witness had told several of his friends and had received a letter from Miss Woods mentioning the engagement.

To Mr. Snyder he replied that he had never tried to borrow such a sum from Captain Eisler and that he had offered to allow complainant to draw as high as G.\$6,000 against him.

In answer to Mr. Husar, he was Vice-President and Manager of Hinde Bros. Inc., but the company had never been incorporated. He had told complainant the day before she sailed that he had invested the money in his company for her. Witness stated that he had proposed and was accepted three months before Miss Woods left for America. He had not bought a ring, nor had he given a public dinner of announcement.

"Can you explain why she wrote in one letter 'What do you mean by telling Amie that I was going to marry you, you had no business to do so,' or in another to him, 'I said that I would marry you if you stopped drinking entirely, you will have to get into first-class physical condition. It's up to you. I will marry no man to reform him. I have not will power for two, I have will power enough for myself. You will have to show yours. Until then we are not engaged'?"

"Why did you tell her in your letter of April 16, 1923, that the money had been transferred from one bank which paid but two per cent. to another that paid five per cent. when you, as you have said, told her before she left for America that you had invested her Tls. 3,000 in your business—why tell her that at five per cent. she will draw interest of Tls. 290 when it was in your business?—She would get at least that much, no more.

After argument by both attorneys, His Honour took the matter under advisement.

ITALIAN OPIUM RUNNER SENTENCED

First Conviction Under New Law: Old Mixed Court Case Recalled

At the Italian Consulate on Wednesday, L. E. Jovino, describing himself as manager of the Italian Trading Co., was charged with having in his possession on November 14 at 111 Canton Road 649 lb. of opium (value \$50,000), contrary to the law recently promulgated in Italy. He was sentenced by Com. G. de' Rossi and two Assessors to two months' imprisonment, which was suspended for a period of two years, and to pay a fine of Lire 1,000. Jovino, it will be recalled, figured prominently in a sensational opium case at the Mixed Court over two years ago. Two coolies were charged before the Italian Assessor (Italian interests having been asserted) with trafficking in the drug. Opium produced in Court was claimed by Jovino, who stated through a lawyer that it was his property. The police, however, have ever since refused to release it.

When defendant came before Com. de' Rossi yesterday, Supt. Vaughan appeared for the police. Depositions taken *in camera* from Mr. M. O. Springfield, Assistant Commissioner of Police, and Sub-Insp. Hermitage were read. They were to the effect that on November 24 last opium valued at \$40 was purchased by the police at Jovino's address. Some time later the premises were visited by the witnesses, who intended to execute a search warrant. While in the premises they came across a document which they thought at the time, and afterwards

proved to be, a notice stating that the place was registered at the Italian Consulate. After obtaining the necessary authority from the Consulate the premises were searched. Several incriminating documents were found, some marked money, and the usual paraphernalia. The searchers also noticed a tin signboard bearing the inscription Tse Woo Yang Hong, the characters Nyi Soong, (Italian merchants) and L. E. Jovino, general manager. Sub-Insp. Hermitage found a keyhole in the floorboards. On prizing up the planks in this and other rooms, where similar keyholes were discovered, a large quantity of opium was revealed.

Com. de' Rossi, passing the sentence of the Court, said that as far as the Consulate were concerned this was defendant's first offence. As he had a large family to support, the Court would suspend the sentence of two months' imprisonment for two years, on his promising to keep out of trouble for that period.

Five Chinese charged in connexion with the raid, are under remand.

FOKIEN ROAD OPIUM RAIDS

Serious View of the Case Taken: Pathetic Incident in Court

The opium raids at Nos. 61a and 721/2 Fokien Road which resulted in large hauls for the Police were the subject of a hearing by Messrs. Blackburn and Kuan at the Mixed Court on Friday morning when Tsang Yih-ding (71), his wife Tsang Yue-wong (42); two boys, Loo Ming-san and Tsung Ah-foo (both 15); and three girls, Zung Mei-ling (16), Zung Mei-tsang (13) and Li Ah-ling (12) were charged with aiding and abetting in the sale of the drug last Tuesday.

Mr. M. O. Springfield, Assistant Commissioner of Police, stated that at 3.30 on Tuesday he conducted the raid at 721/2 Fokien Road. He went to the draw of a desk in the front room where he found several marked coins and a \$5 note which were used for the purchase of opium.

Dr. O. Fisher (of Messrs. Musso & Fischer) assisted by Mr. J. Em. Lemièrre, appeared for the defence. In cross-examination by Dr. Fischer, Mr. Springfield described the positions of accused when arrested.

Sub-Insp. Ring corroborated this evidence.

Sub-Insp. Hermitage stated that he conducted the raid at No. 61a Fokien Road, the door being bolted at the time. It was opened by one girl and witness went upstairs to the back room where he peeped from behind the door. The second girl had a pair of scales in her hand, but as soon as she saw him she smiled! "She evidently thought it strange for a foreigner to find his way up

there," stated Sub-Insp. Hermitage, "but as soon as Sgt. Sullivan appeared in uniform she saw that the situation had been altered."

Cross-examined by Dr. Fischer:—Who gave you the information?—An informant.

What is the name of your informant?—That cannot be disclosed.

Where is he?—I don't know.

Is he in Court to-day to give evidence?—No.

Addressing the Court Dr. Fischer requested the Court to instruct the Police to bring the informer into Court, as the accused had every right to face him. The Court had taken a very severe view of opium cases, stated counsel, and in criminal cases it was most important that a man who makes allegations be brought into Court to be cross-examined. The defence was entitled to know who actually gave the information and who were the real proprietors of the opium shops. When the Court was more lenient, the defence did not insist on the production of informers, but this was important now that the Court took a serious view of the matter.

OBJECTION RULED OUT.

Mr. Martin, after consultation with the Magistrate, stated that the Court was unable and unwilling to order the Police to bring their informers into Court. The Court took the attitude that they could not instruct the Police in the making out of their case which they must do themselves. If they did not make it out properly and to the satisfaction of the Court, and if they omitted material evidence, the case would go against the prosecution and the Court was not going to instruct the prosecution how to make out their case.

Sub-Insp. Hermitage: We have shown by direct evidence the guilt of accused.

Dr. Fischer: You have not. We do not know that you have.

Sub-Insp. Hermitage: I know. We have the money to prove the case.

Sergeant Sullivan corroborated Sub-Insp. Hermitage's evidence.

As Dr. Fischer did not call his clients to the box, Sub-Insp. Hermitage stated that the Police would not sum up as they had proved their case.

Dr. Fischer asked for a dismissal of the case owing to lack of evidence. The only evidence was against one of the girls who had the scales in her hands. This girl was under 12 years of age and she, as well as the others, were considered to be ignorant of the law. Counsel submitted that they were tools in the hands of other people. The old man and the woman were just out from the country and knew nothing about the opium. They had no bad record, hence counsel would ask that they be discharged. The police had refused to call direct evidence, and they must suffer for it.

The Assessor then asked what the Police meant by adding to

the charge sheet among the articles seized "a receipt from Mr. G. D. Musso for retaining fee."

Sub-Insp. Hermitage stated that the receipt had not been brought to Court.

Dr. Fischer: I understand that it was for the year 1916.

The Court discharged one boy, and fined the three girls and the other boy \$100 each. Owing to their age, they would not have to go to prison. The woman was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, and the old man, in view of his age, was given a week's imprisonment and a fine of \$500.

The announcement of the sentence was the sign of a dramatic and pathetic incident. The accused, lined up, knelt down and cried out for the Court's mercy, and had to be removed at the Assessor's order.

Mr. Lemièrre urged that the old man's sentence be reduced. He stated that accused was an old man and could not go to prison on account of his health. That he was innocent was proved by the fact that he still had a queue and was dressed in his countryman's dress.

The Assessor stated that the sentence was a light one, and this was only imposed on account of the old man's age. The decision of the Court could not be altered. It was a bad case, and the young boys and girls were being trained up for the sale of the drug. If the prison doctor would give a certificate showing that the old man could not serve his sentence, it might be suspended. Imprisonment was necessary in these cases to show that the Court regarded the sale of opium as a criminal offence.

ALLEGED THEFT BY CHINESE

Contempt of Court Charge: Case Remanded and Bail Refused

The highway robbery in Ningpo Road on the 6th instant which resulted in the seizure by robbers of 500 Chinese Government Short Term Loan Bonds was brought to the attention of Mr. A. J. Martin (British Assessor) and Mr. Kuan Chun (Chinese Magistrate) at the Mixed Court last Friday morning and adjourned for special hearing.

Nine Chinese, (Tsung Ah-san 34, and Zee Tz-kwei, 32, private ricksha coolies; Tsang Vee-keu, 32, and Tsang Ah-foh, 25, unemployed; Zee Ching, 34, and Woo Chhing-nyoen, 45, hot water shopkeepers; Yau Tsang-hai, 20, and Woo Zee-dzeu, 37, coolies; and Tsha Ong, 28, ricksha coolie) were charged with armed highway robbery and the theft of 500 Chinese Government Short Term Loan Bonds, total value \$333,500. Tsang Ah-foh was also charged with holding the Court in contempt by returning to the Settlement after an order had been

made on August 16 last for his expulsion from the Settlement. A woman, Ah Pau, who carried in her arms a small child, was also charged with aiding and abetting the men in the commission of the crime.

Det.-Insp. Yorke, assisted by Det.-Sub-Insp. Hunter, were present for the police; Dr. A. Ting prosecuted on behalf of the Tung Yih Trust Co. (whose property the bonds were); and Mr. L. K. Kentwell appeared for Zee Ching. The other accused were not represented by counsel.

Inspector Elliot asked the Court to remand the case, and was supported by Dr. Ting who stated that the case would probably take an hour or two. Mr. Kentwell did not object and the case was remanded for special hearing, bail being refused.

BRUTAL MURDER ON GRAVE MOUND

Dramatic Alleged Confessions in the Mixed Court

The trial of Ting Ah-mau and Wang Ki-yu, unemployed coolies, on a charge of murdering a man whose body was discovered on a grave mound in the vicinity of Kwenming Road, was begun at the Mixed Court on Monday. For the first time for a number of years in a capital charge at this court a lawyer was assigned by the Registrar to defend the prisoners, the counsel being Dr. G. Sellett.

In answer to Supt. Vaughan, Det.-Sub-Insp. Quayle said the deceased was found lying in an unconscious condition. He was conveyed to St. Luke's Hospital and expired on arrival. A large wire nail was found by Det.-Sgt. Ashley in the vicinity of the body. The nail was of the kind used by Chinese burglars. The inquest verdict having been published in the Chinese press, a man came along and identified the body. Deceased had lived in East Yuhang Road. Two other men as well as deceased left the house on that night and failed to return.

Both men had made written confessions, the officer proceeded, in which Ting admitted having done the actual killing, the other man Wang having acted as a scout. Witness was taken to the exact spot where the murder had taken place, a grave mound. The man then gave him a graphic account of how he performed the deed. After decoying the deceased into the field, Ting and another man attacked him with a chopper, hitting him across the head. The first blow was not sufficient. Deceased snatched the chopper away from Ting, but afterwards the latter succeeding in regaining possession of it and dealt the injured man several other blows. Witness was also shown where prisoner had dug up some earth with his fin-

gers and stuffed it into the mouth and eyes of the victim because he made so much noise. The chopper was afterwards thrown away in a busy part of Kwenming Road. The police had been unable to find it, it doubtless having been picked up by somebody.

The accused were remanded.

THE CARGO PILFERING EVIL

Important Prosecution at Mixed Court: Alleged Thefts from Holt's Wharf

What was described as one of the most complicated of a long series of cargo pilfering cases came before Mr. Martin and Magistrate Kuan at the Mixed Court on Wednesday. The accused were Li Yung-kung (24) and Sung Ping (26), tally clerks employed at Holt's Wharf, and they were charged with the larceny of six cases of woollen goods, valued at Tls. 2,400. A shopkeeper, Wong Siao-ziao, of 1910 Seward Road, was also charged with being a receiver of the property.

Mr. C. Mansel Reece, prosecuting for the Wharf, said the essence of the crime was that it could not have been committed unless there had been a conspiracy between three or four men. A cargo had been stolen which had never before been shipped to Shanghai. As she lay alongside the wharf the ship was watched night and day. The only men who could have known that this particular cargo was in the ship were the accused, who were ship and wharf tally clerks. As regards the manager of the shop, the third accused, he had made a statement that he obtained the goods from a man who spoke like a coolie, a man who gave him no explanation as to where he got them. The manager of the shop would also no doubt be unable to explain why he mutilated the cloth to remove traces of its owner's marks.

CARGO FROM THE GLAUCUS.

The Glaucus arrived in Shanghai on October 30, counsel proceeded, sailing on November 4. On checking over, it was discovered that cargo down on one bill of lading was short-landed. Six cases were missing. They were not numbered consecutively, and were not shown on either the wharf or ship's tally. Subsequently the agents were informed by the consignees, Messrs. Bradley & Co., Ltd., that that particular kind of cargo was being sold on the Shanghai market. A visit was paid by Capt. Dixon, manager of the wharf, the police and a representative of the consignees to the Seward Road shop. The shop assistants were shown a sample of the cloth and denied having any in stock. Mr. Henderson and Capt. Dixon, however, looked through the cases and found two pieces identical with the stolen

cloth. One piece bore the mark and number of the cloth in the missing cases. Reference was made to the tally sheets. They had been carefully checked by the accused, and signed by them. Missing rolls were not shown. The case was one of the worst of a long series which had come before the bench, and counsel asked for an adequate sentence to deter others.

Det.-Sgt. Henry described the visit paid by the detectives and wharf representative to the third accused's shop. This man was not in at the time. The assistants said it was customary for him to return at noon, but he did not return that day until 7 p.m. In consequence of this a warrant was applied for and later the man gave himself up to the police.

Cross-examined by Mr. H. D. Rodger (appearing for the shopkeeper) witness said defendant at first denied all knowledge of the cloth, but afterwards assisted the police in every way to recover it.

AN ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.

Capt. A. W. Dixon corroborated the story of the last witness as to the visit to the shop, and added that before the hatches were closed down, Europeans searched the holds. In witness's expert opinion, no one could have got into the holds. The accused had probably conspired beforehand not to record the cargo as it passed through their hands, and some one in the godown appropriated it. This was the usual method in such cases.

In answer to Mr. L. K. Kentwell (defending Sung Ping), witness said he felt sure of the guilt of the accused on learning definitely that the cloth had been found.

Mr. A. Henderson, of Bradley & Co., said he sold three of the cases of the cloth. He first learnt of the theft when a dealer came along to complain that the company was selling the cloth cheaper to other dealers.

Mr. Mansel Reece opposed bail for the shopkeeper. Once when a previous Assessor granted bail in a case of this sort, two gentlemen of a similar status left for that pleasant resort Ningpo.

The prisoners were remanded in custody.

A Chinese named Ah Too, steward on the str. Benmachui, Royal Albert Dock, has been convicted at East Ham Police Court of harbouring on board 62 Mauser pistols and 6,200 rounds of ammunition with intent to evade the prohibition to import. A Customs officer explained that both arms and ammunition were concealed in a cavity between two sections of the ice-box. The cavity had been soldered up in a workmanlike way. The ammunition had been purchased at Antwerp. The Magistrate ordered defendant to pay treble value and duty—£744—or 91 days' imprisonment.

NEWS FROM THE MUNICIPAL GAZETTE

SHANGHAI, DECEMBER 13, 1923

Robberies.

Correspondence with the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce on the subject of recent robberies:—

Shanghai, November 29, 1923.

DEAR SIR,—To-day we are in receipt of a letter from the Tung Yih Trust Company, Ltd., stating as follows:—

"This morning (November 29) the Chinese Stock Exchange being due to fulfil its delivery contract of this month, we sent our clerk Ko Shao-wen to proceed in a private ricscha to the said exchange to take delivery of \$1,000 denomination Internal Loan Bonds for the total face value of \$500,000.

"Returning from the said exchange and on passing the entrance of the Yin Mei Lee Alleyway facing the Ningpo Road, several ruffians suddenly made their appearance, held up the ricscha, overturned it, and laid a tight grasp on the throats of the clerk and the ricscha puller, forbidding them to make any noise.

"The highway robbers then seized the full quantity of the loan bonds and took flight. The matter was reported by us to the Municipal Police who were asked to take drastic measures for the arrest of the culprits.

"In view of the fact that this case of robbery is of an exceptional nature by reason of the very large sum of money involved and by reason of the reckless audaciousness displayed in the crime having been committed in broad daylight and in the heart of the International Settlement, it is evident that this act of lawlessness will have adverse effects of a far-reaching character on the commerce of the whole district."

This Chamber has been requested to address you on this matter and to solicit your special assistance to the end that as a result of the particular efforts of the Municipal Police, the offenders will be discovered and the booty will be recovered so that a wholesome preventive influence will be exercised on crimes of robbery, and the peace and order of the Settlement more easily preserved.

In placing this present case before you, I wish firstly to emphasize the fact that this Chamber is very much concerned over the singular significance of the robbery as reported above; secondly to urge the grave necessity of drastic steps being taken to deal with the case successfully; and thirdly to solicit the adoption of suitable remedial measures to prevent similar occurrences in future. Otherwise the Chinese merchants residing in this Settlement will be compelled to entertain grave doubts regarding the

prospects of being able to go about their pacific pursuits with feelings of absolute security.

The municipal taxes of this thriving metropolis of which the Chinese mercantile community pays a very considerable portion from year to year is in itself an eloquent plea of the perfect reasonableness of the hopes entertained by the Chinese merchants of enjoying adequate protection from the Municipal Council. However, in recent months there have been repeated occurrences of daylight robbery and these have taken place in public thoroughfares where traffic was continuous. Such developments are indeed of an alarming nature.

The robbery case at North Honan Road took place only less than a week ago, and now on the heel of that came this highway robbery involving a sum of five hundred thousand dollars in negotiable bonds. With this unprecedented case and its predecessors varying in the sums involved and the circumstances, may we not complain that the police protection afforded has, as a matter of fact, been inadequate and unsatisfactory?

On behalf of the Chinese residents of the International Settlement, this Chamber begs to solemnly solicit your best assistance in the matter of causing immediate remedial measures to be adopted on a sufficient scale as to procure the elimination of the element of alarm from the minds of the Chinese population, especially the mercantile community.

C. P. FONG,
Vice-Chairman,

General Chamber of Commerce
of Shanghai.

The CHAIRMAN,
Shanghai Municipal Council.

Council Chamber,

Shanghai, December 12, 1923.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 29, on the subject of the robbery from an apprentice of the Tung Yih Trust Company.

In reply thereto, I am directed to inform you that from Police comment on this matter, it would appear:—

1. That the apprentice one Ko Shao-wen, an irresponsible youth of 17 years of age, whose remuneration consists of \$3 a month, was sent unaccompanied, to take delivery of bonds valued at half a million dollars in a private ricscha, and that the ricscha man was aware of his mission, and with his confederates, effected the robbery.

2. The act of sending this irresponsible youth on such a mission was an act of gross and foolhardy carelessness on the part of the Tung Yih Trust Company.

3. Being unaccompanied and without means of defence, it was naturally an easy matter for the robbers who committed the crime to overpower the youth.

4. Within twenty-four hours of the occurrence, ten persons were arrested, and bonds to the value of \$379,000 were recovered.

5. The suggestion that the perpetration of crimes of this nature calls for increased Police protection, is impracticable, since it is obviously impossible to have Policemen stationed at every possible point. Practical protective measures must rest with the concerned in the use of common sense methods, Police action alone being powerless to prevent such occurrences, and I have, therefore, to reply suggesting that where negotiable instruments and other valuables are being transported, the owners themselves should adopt such precautionary measures as to make similar robberies impossible.

With regard to your remarks on the subject of Municipal taxes, it is to be observed that the maintenance of a large and valuable Police Force, is necessitated chiefly by the circumstance that evil doers from all parts of China are allowed to come and go freely in the Foreign Settlement, whilst their headquarters, where they plot and plan their nefarious transactions, are located beyond its boundary.

It should, I think, be obvious therefore, that were the Council to increase the Police Force beyond measure in order to protect careless people from the results of their own negligence, the Council would have so to increase the taxes on its peace abiding residents as to constitute an unduly grave burden upon them.

In conclusion, I am to observe that the statement that this particular robbery or that any recent series of robberies, has created a state of panic and alarm in the minds of the Chinese community resident within the Settlement, is not in accordance with fact.

E. S. B. ROWE,
Acting Secretary.

FONG CHU-PA, Esq.,
Vice-Chairman,
Chinese General Chamber of Commerce.

Brothels.

In accordance with the provisions of Municipal Notification No. 3187, the last official drawing of brothels for closure took place at the Town Hall on Thursday, December 6, at 3 o'clock p.m. Of a total of 196 brothels, 98 were drawn for closure, and after formal signature of the official list of numbers drawn, the proceedings terminated.

THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

The "fantastic story of the British adventure in Palestine" is told in a book now ready with Heinemann. It is by Mr. C. R. Ashbee, who went to Palestine first to report on the arts and crafts, later to take charge of the City of Jerusalem, and act as its civic adviser. During the four and half years that he held his position he was in touch with all the leading men who have had to do with recent events in Palestine. But, perhaps, the main interest of the narrative lies in the picture it gives of a time of turbulent change, when Jew, Arab, Greek, and Syrian were tossed about.

A curious and hard misfortune has overtaken the rare books, drawings, and other art treasures which Mr. Joseph Pennell gathered together while he was in London. He warehoused them there when he left Adelphi Terrace for America, about the end of the war, because then he could not take them with him. Government happened to "commandeer" the warehouse, and the cases containing the treasures were removed to the cellar. There, unknown to anybody, they were flooded by a London rainstorm, and the consequent damp, as has recently been discovered, mostly ruined them.

General Allen, who was in command of the American troops of occupation on the Rhine, has written a book about his experiences and impressions. Several London publishers want to have it, and a Paris house and a Berlin house are anxious to make translations. This shows that though America takes no direct part in the settlement of the reparation problem, there is a lively interest in knowing her ideas as expressed by a spokesman like General Allen.

There is much human interest in a batch of new letters by Stevenson, which will shortly be published. They were written to Lady Colvin when he was only on the door-step of literature, and they reflect his hopes and fears. "Despise me, if you please, my lady," he says in one, "but, mind you, I'll do good work in spite of it all, even though I cannot catch trains (as now I cannot), and cannot write letters, and cannot keep engagements, nor generally do anything that a stout thoughtful citizen should do by nature."

We are having a book of reminiscences by Mrs. Kate Douglas Wiggin, the American writer whose "Cabbage Patch" and other books have been popular on both sides of the Atlantic. It is the story of an active and joyous life, rich in accomplishment and in friendships with notable men and women. Mrs. Wiggin describes her childhood days by the Saco River, her happy girlhood in California, and her rise from obscurity, to end as a star in the literary world. Her life and her work may be said to have closed together in this book, which has the title, "My Garden of Memory."

It is strange that the almost neglected works of an old writer can be resurrected in new forms and sell "like hot cakes." This is the good fortune which the Constables have had with their elaborate editions of Daniel Defoe's "Moll Flanders" and "Roxana." They are now preparing a like edition of his especially little known "Colonel Jack, Commonly Call'd Colonel Jack." The text is being reprinted without abridgement from the first issue of 1723. This plan has been followed with all the Defoe reprints.

Before the war people took long cruises on beautiful ships, and now those travel holidays are come again for folk able to afford them. Their luggage of the literary sort might well include a book which the Putnams announce, certainly if they are bound for the Mediterranean. It is called "The Mediterranean Cruise," and it is by Mr. Rolland Jenkins, who has made it several times and made a study of it.

ANOTHER DUSTER!

"ADAM AND EVE:" By H. Dennis Bradley. (T. Werner Laurie Ltd., London).

In spite of the fact of Mr. Bradley's being so pre-eminently one of the moderns, there is a distinct suggestion of some of the old French satirists about his writing. No one could accuse him of handling his subjects with a velvet glove. A spade is never anything but a spade to him, though if there were a more illuminating name for that domestic implement he would unquestionably apply it. He wields that great gift in literature of telling us things we know, and always have known, to be absolutely true. When we can accept a writer's philosophy with a

chuckle and say "Why, I've always thought that," our acceptance of him has gone forth and he may sleep sound in his bed of nights, counting on our allegiance.

These essays of Mr. Bradley's are full of the things we know to be true, and even if we have not always had the courage or the desire to admit their irrefutability, we cannot help admiring the man who sets them down for us in black and white, so tersely and epigrammatically as Mr. Bradley does. He is a brilliant critic who fearlessly tackles anything which comes to hand. On such diverse subjects as "Politics," "Advertising," "Drama," and "Starch" he has something trenchant, virile and worth-while to say.

Though we may not always see eye to eye with him, we cannot but help being impressed by his vigorous argument and respect his determination to tear down any musty veils which might help to obscure a clearer examination of the subject under observation. He stands clean out in the open and utters his challenge with no hint of apology in his voice. He also sings the Song of the Young Men with much gusto—perhaps just a shade too much gusto to be appreciated by the greybeards.

On the whole it is an invigorating little book and the writer has the additional grace of being witty and amusing.

A.M.B.-S.

THREE OF A KIND

THE FOUR STRAGGLERS: by Frank L. Packard. (Hodder & Stoughton, London).

We remember hearing of an old colonel who devoured French novels with great gusto, but who always looked at the last chapter to see if the hero married the girl. If he did, the colonel read the tale; if not, the book went into the fire. We feel sure that "The Four Stragglers" would be read by the old man from cover to cover.

The four of them are introduced in the prologue. By a singular coincidence they meet on the battlefield, huddling together for protection against the bursting shells and bombs. Three of the four are downright scoundrels: Captain Francis Newcombe (Shadow Varne), whom the war converted into a "T. G." (Temporary Gentleman), is the arch-villain, and has as his accomplices his "valet," Runnells, and a suave but crafty Frenchman named Paul Cremarre. The last of the four is Howard Locke,

the hero, who, of course, "marries the girl," sweet Polly Wickes.

Mr. Frank Packard in disposing of his three criminals, shows that the way of transgressors is unmistakably hard. Their ends were horrible! We do not recommend the reading of this novel just before going to bed, for "Shadow Varne" is one of those characters in fiction that "walk." Nevertheless "The Four Stragglers" is a splendid yarn.

G.S.F.K.

CHINESE ANTHROPOLOGY

"ANTHROPOLOGY OF NORTHERN CHINA:"

by S. M. Shirokogoroff, Anthropologist of the Museum of Ethnography and Anthropology of the Russian Academy of Sciences at Petrograd.—Royal Asiatic Society, Shanghai. Price: \$3 (Kelly & Walsh, Ld.).

The North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society is mainly responsible for the publication of this learned brochure. The author, a Russian with a limited knowledge of English, was enabled to translate his work into correct English through the kindly help of Professor Kulp of the Shanghai Baptist College.

Mr. Shirokogoroff's book is the result of careful investigations carried out with the help of his wife in Siberia, Mongolia and Northern China during 1912, 1913, 1915-1917 and 1918, under the auspices of the Russian Academy of Sciences at Petrograd and the Russian Committee for Investigations in Central and Eastern Asia.

The principal purpose of the book is to give a description of the physical characters of the Chinese and to discover the constituent types.

The treatise is divided into six chapters and has a useful appendix containing tables of measurements of the Chinese groups, Manchus, Koreans and Dahurs. From these measurements it may be seen that the Chinese of the province of Chihli are of the greatest stature.

There is an ethnographical map of North China included in the pamphlet.

G.S.F.K.

THE FOOLISH VIRGIN

"RITA COVENTRY." By Julian Street—(Mills & Boon, London).

This novel concerns a professional singer, Rita Coventry who took a passing fancy to an American business man of pronounced bachelor views. As he had announced these views time and again to Alice—who was foolish enough never to lose an opportunity of proclaiming her love for him—he considered himself quite free to devote all his attentions to the brilliant Rita Coventry. And really the reader can hardly blame him for his choice. Any woman who eternally makes love to a man without receiving any encouragement de-

serves all the rebuffs that Alice received and more. But this is not the moral of the novel—for the author's sympathies lie all in her direction. He has overdrawn her devoted and demonstrative nature in his endeavour to win for her the reader's sympathy. He has unconsciously depicted her as a slobbering, simple, guileless creature who was willing to give everything and was content that her many kindnesses be counted as nothing. Now, to our mind, Rita Coventry, the singer, is a woman deserving of considerable admiration, although Mr. Julian Street did not intend to present her in that light. She did nothing wrong—within the confines of this novel—and her chief faults seem to have been a certain proclivity for mild flirtations with members of her musical coterie and an utter disregard for the conventions in the matter of inviting them to her flat. Her outstanding virtue, apart from her charm, was her worship of 'Art for Art's sake. Altogether the balance is decidedly in favour of Rita; but if Alice had boxed the bachelor's ears once or twice and called him an ungrateful bounder the odds would have been more evenly divided.

A.M.B.-S.

TEMPLE TWILIGHT

THE TWILIGHT OF YANG KUEI FEI, By A. E. Grantham. Messrs. Kelly & Walsh.

This dramatic poem, the scene of which is laid in the Buddhist Temple on Ma Wei, Shensi, is very vividly told, and the description on the first page, of the temple and grounds, is so well done that the reader can picture the whole scene. The temple, with golden image, incense burners, drums and gongs, and "the oldest monk with rosary in hand," is a picture that we all know and one that always creates a feeling of mystery.

On the uppermost terrace, "the poet stands, and gazes into the distance," and we can imagine him weaving his thoughts in a poem fitting to tell of the customs of ancient Cathay.

A long procession of monks wend their way towards the temple, and vanish from sight inside, chanting as they go.

The poem goes on, the different characters entering. The Emperor comes to seek protection from the revolutionists, and with him his favourite Yang Kuei Fei, who tries to cheer the Emperor,

"Sire, deign to refresh yourself with fragrant tea

Nothing has passed your lips since sunrise,

And last night you only ate one bowl of coarse un-seasoned rice."

The Emperor, gloomily:

"We have fallen on evil days; I trusted where I should have chastised,

Believed where I should have been suspicious,
Placed power in the hands of fools and knaves."

The story continues, and is fascinatingly described, and ends with the killing of Yang Kuei Fei, whose dying speech is very beautiful.

"Sleep, sleep take thou me also,
Enfold me dusk of failing day,
Pale twilight stars shine down the chasm

Which my flesh is crossing now.

Hear me, Lord Buddha Amitaba

My span of years has shrunk to a speck of time about to pass,

My being, to a failing flame of consciousness.

Sinking to ashes in Thy hands.

In Thy mercy gather these—

In Thy pity give them peace—

In Thy glory give me light."

The poem ends, in the chanting of the monks, and the call of the night watchman for "silence and meditation at the close of day."

A NOVEL OF NOTE

A FOOL'S HELL. By Rosita Forbes. Messrs. Thornton Butterworth, Ld.

In the matter of the seven and sixpenny novels — incidentally there is no indication of price reduction—it is seldom the critic finds himself in agreement with the customary publishers' notices. But when we find "A Fool's Hell" described as "an enthralling tale of Egypt and the desert" it is pleasing to record that the publishers have been no more than honest. The writer has given us a very clever book indeed—a book whose chapters hold the reader's complete interest from first to last. It is a tale of one of the outposts of Empire with many stirring scenes of native life and of the regiment whose duty it is to uphold the honour of the old country. The officers, from Colonel downwards, enter into the pages only too infrequently for, from the glimpses seen of them, they are a happy, typical lot and more time might very profitably have been spent on a depiction of their lives. However, the book is such an excellent one that it is unfair to complain on this score. Rather should we be truly thankful for a most enjoyable time spent with "A Fool's Hell." In the Reuter telegrams the other day it was noted that a foreign honour had been bestowed upon the authoress of this book, and it is very evident from her latest work that she has a close knowledge of the people and country with whom she has dealt. She has presumably travelled extensively and she has most decidedly made splendid use of her powers of observation. "A Fool's Hell" should be widely read at home and abroad and it will also be very keenly appreciated.

J.W.F.



SHARP STRICTURES FOR PARENTS

Contributed by a Spinster

Instead of whispering this bit of scandal into the ears of all my nearest and dearests and charging them strictly not to say a word about it, the which I have always found to be an excellent manner of disseminating useless information, I have asked my accommodating friend, Mrs. Pepys, to let me have my say in her columns in order that my remarks may reach the offending parent or parents at whom they are aimed. I am almost discouraged before I begin, for such parents, I realize, would hardly take the requisite interest in the Home to read this department, and indeed probably do not regularly peruse this paper. They could hardly be "constant readers" and still be guilty of the heinous crime attributed to them.

Were the guilty wretch or wretches known to me I should certainly face them with the charge direct, but as happily I have no such persons on my list of acquaintances one has to fling the accusation out into empty space and let him whose head fits the cap wear it. Even now I hesitate to bring the complaint forward lest the original remark should have been made simply to put the burden of responsibility one step further on. Still, lest there be in all Shanghai one parent so remiss as to deserve this stern stricture it shall be spoken.

GRUDGING MONEY FOR BOOKS.

The outrageous truth is that in hunting around Shanghai book shops for two or three new books for children I was told: "It would hardly pay to import too many expensive books for children, parents don't seem to want to spend money for nursery books." Let us thank the altruistic booksellers of Shanghai that if such be the case they gallantly face financial loss in an educational campaign, for the variety and beauty of the books displayed refutes the calumny for the most part. Still, to have this remark advanced in palliation for not stocking certain books, which perhaps might not appeal to all parents, shows that there must have been some slight foundation for the excuse offered.

Granted such an offence there is no limit to the thunderburst of indignation which should justly fulminate upon the head of the offender. Not spend money for nursery books? Where could it better be spent? To those who

say for food, clothes, and shelter we reply, yes, but not for over-luxurious food, fussy dressing or too expensive furnishings. A nursery may have every mechanical toy invented but still lack the greatest gift of all if books be absent.

THE TRUEST FRIENDS.

Most of us grown-ups appreciate the companionship and solace of books. We would give up almost any comfort before we would deny ourselves such friends. But what if we had not been trained in our childish days to look upon a book as a key to an enchanted garden, as a passport to every land, as an introduction to the wisest and wittiest of the ages? It is difficult to show an adult the joys of bookland, his tastes must be formed early in order to get the fullest pleasure from a library.

But with children, ah, those are the important moments. Nothing in the world can ever be too good for a child. Some things may be too expensive. Some books may be very costly in their make-up and so tawdry in their content that they should be barred from the nursery. But too much time and thought can never be given to the selection of children's books for as Francis Thompson wrote:

*"Know you what it is to be a child?
It is to be something very different
from the man of to-day. It is to
have a spirit yet streaming from the
waters of baptism; it is to believe in
belief; it is to be so little that the
elves can reach to whisper in your ear,
it is to turn pumpkins into coaches,
and mice into horses, lowness into
loftiness, and nothing into everything,
for each child has its fairy god-
mother in its own soul; it is to live
in a nutshell and to count yourself
the king of infinite space; it is
'To see a world in a grain of sand,*

*And a heaven in a wild flower,
Hold infinity in the palm of your hand,
And eternity in an hour'."*

PARADOX

"The best that can come to a poet,"

My wonderful mother said—
(However she came to know it
I forgot to ask—and she's dead)—

"The best is to love, and forever,
What he cannot have at all.
There's a joy that'll fail him never,
Whatever of pain befall."

"But that isn't joy," I told her,
In the ignorance of youth.
Oh! now, by the Quiets that hold
her,
I know that she said the truth!
—George Sterling.

MY RICSHA COOLIE SAYS

That Taking it All in All There
Might be Worse Jobs

By Elizabeth Pepys.

My ricsha coolie says that if it weren't for the long hauls life wouldn't be half bad. He says he doesn't mind the in-between spells because those are never alone who are accompanied by noble thoughts and besides he can generally find a gambling game. If his fellow workmen are busy there is always something to look at and often he can start a fight or some other excitement. If he is lucky there is a good deal of chowing to be done, and a good nap will always dispel ennui.

My ricsha coolie says he is the swiftest runner in town. He knows there is a little difference of opinion on that score between himself and another fleet gazelle, but he could have outstripped his rival easily were it not for an irritating nervousness on the part of his employer and her reluctance to be shaken out of her seat in cutting rapid corners. He says it is silly to let yourself out on a long stretch of clear road in the residence section where there is no one to appreciate your speed except said employer; better far to wait for crowded traffic and stage a race down Nanking Road. He fears his employer has no sporting spirit as she seems to object to becoming involved in races with strange men.

A GREAT LIFE IF YOU DON'T GET PINCHED.

My ricsha coolie says traffic police are a great nuisance but almost any clever runner can circumvent them, and anyway his employer is tender-hearted and probably won't let him be prosecuted. She tells him to be obedient to signals, but he can always grin and pretend not to understand. This not understanding is a good game and foreigners are the only people to work for. Besides if worst comes to worst his cheerful grin will probably pull him through. He knows it is worth an extra dollar to him every month. After all, why not grin? Foreigners are very amusing.

NEW EXCAVATIONS

A workman with his spade in half a day

Can push two thousand lagging years away;

See, how the tragic villas, one by one,

Like sleepy lizards, creep into the sun.
Leonora Speyer
in the "Literary Review"

THE HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY

No Chain Stronger Than Weakest Link

One of the agencies for public betterment which continues steadily pounding away at the gigantic task of instilling some elementary sanitary and hygienic principles in the Chinese mind is the Council on Health Education in its quarters at 4 Quinsan Gardens. It may seem at times a hopeless task to instruct the great mass of the uneducated Chinese, but little by little though the appeal to the eye, by telling demonstrations, in school instruction, by health movies, health habit picture cards, and in a dozen other simple and effective methods the elementary truths are filtering through.

The local office has recently received reinforcement by the return of Dr. Iva M. Miller who arrived some two weeks ago from furlough during which she took the course in public health offered by Johns Hopkins University. She will remain at headquarters until July, 1924, in the department of school hygiene and may then go on to organize other fields. The staff at headquarters at present consists of Dr. W. W. Peter, the originator of the Council, whose main function now is that of administration; Dr. S. M. Woo, School Hygiene; Dr. C. L. Kao, Chinese Literature; Dr. V. B. Appleton, Child Hygiene. Dr. I. M. Miller, School Hygiene, and Dr. Ernest Mammem, general health work. It hoped that Dr. F. J. Wampler's missionary board will allocate him for full time service with the Shanghai office.

WORK WITH YOUNG CHINA.

The School Hygiene department has examined 1,200 pupils in 20 schools in Hangchow and 2,000 in 17 mission schools in Soochow. The general programme of the department consists of the following items: (1) physical and medical examination of school children; (2) correction of defects and treatment of diseases; (3) systematic health teaching; (4) supervised play; (5) sanitation; (6) constant medical supervision.

The Child Hygiene Department concentrates its efforts upon the establishment of health centres. It has organized such work at Changsha, Hongkong, Foochow, Soochow and a beginning has been made at Nantao Christian Institute. The general office has co-operated with employers in vaccinating entire native staffs, and also has a smallpox poster and circular showing the need for vaccination. Employers, and indeed every housekeeper, will welcome the Council's aid in making simple rules of hygiene available to uneducated labourers through pictures and charts.

E. P.

TRADE TIPS

"Banana", "Peach" and "Sun-burn" Hosiery

The fruit shades seem to be favoured in the higher-priced hosiery for evening wear this season since active call for goods of a hue called banana is reported and peach is another strong evening shade. Sheer hose, referred to in some quarters as chiffons, are being freely sold for dance and party use. Hose for street wear is also active in a variety of colours, among the most active of which are the so-called sun-burn shades.

THE NEEDFUL BAG.

Leather goods manufacturers report a revived interest in the so-called "under-arm" and envelope styles in women's hand-bags. These have not been in much favor for some time, but the demand for them has grown lately. They are being made in all the popular leathers. The



THE HAT OF THE MOMENT

plain, neat types are said to be receiving the most attention.

SPEEDY SILK DELIVERIES.

The Silk Association announced that a special seaplane service has been organized to hasten the receipt of documents covering raw silk shipments from the Far East. Through the efforts of its Transportation Committee arrangements have been made with the Post Office Line whereby seaplanes will meet steamships eighty miles off Seattle and receive especially addressed document mail. Upon arrival at Seattle this will be despatched at once, bringing the documents to New York before the arrival of the silk.

TO LEIGH HUNT

Jenny kissed you? Well, what then, Leigh?

Wherefore such ecstatic trembling? That's a token merely friendly.

Leigh, you rascal, you're dissembling!

Say she shocked you you rather badly—

Kissed you—purred sweet words, if any—

Say whate'er you will—but add, Leigh,

You kissed Jennie.

—N. L. R. in "Life."

THE PERFECTLY POSSIBLE HUSBAND

I write books. He never reads them, but shows an almost human intelligence concerning the royalties.

I forgive him.

I love golf, and he laughs at it. I forgive him.

He never remembers to tell me I am beautiful. Kissing me is easier and more satisfactory—for him.

I forgive him.

When I try to explain that a woman wants a lover, not just a husband, he yawns and asks me how I get that way.

I forgive him.

He never has had a big affair with another woman, but frequently indulges in harmless flirtations that cheapen me and make people think I cannot keep him.

I forgive him.

When he takes me out to dinner, he never bothers to make himself interesting. I talk and he eats.

I forgive him.

When I talk to him in terms of youth, he suggests that it is time for me to adopt the language of middle age.

Even that, I forgive him!

But by reason of all these things, he has made it possible for me to stop loving him.

...And this I can't forgive him!

R. B. Tuthill.

LIFE'S LITTLE IRONIES

The little roly-poly white pup Stuck his head out of the kennel

And said:

Gee, this is a lonesome world!

The kids have gone to school

And I've no one to play with me.

There's that black kitten on the fence,—

Wish that she wasn't so stuck up.

But if I went over and spoke to her

She'd only put up her back

And spit at me.

Oh, dear! I wish cats were more sociable.

The little roly-poly black kitten Peeked over the fence pickets

And said:

Gee, this is a lonesome world!

My mistress has gone to the city

And I've no one to play with me.

There's that white pup in his kennel,—

I wish that he wasn't such a tease.

But if I went over in his yard

He'd only bark at me

And chase me out again.

Oh, dear! I wish dogs were more sociable.

Maurine Halliburton.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

MONEY IN JAZZ

Huge Profit Realised by the "Bananas" Hit

Every dance season has its flood of new dance music, says a writer in the "Statesman." The music to a large extent decides the extent or otherwise of the dance season. If the average music of the season be poor, the dance restaurants, dance clubs and dance palaces will see the result in lessened profits.

Every season the jazz composer has to hit on new ideas. One year Mammy songs will be all the rage. Another year negro music will be 'off,' and the vogue will be for Oriental music, languorous, mysterious. A third year noisy, brisk music will be popular. Then the reaction will bring dreamy waltz-like foxtrots into favour. To-day the jazzy but quiet and drawling "Blues" is enjoying an unexampled run.

Like a novelist, a dance music composer makes his big hit usually by accident. He cannot tell, any more than an author can, just what it is that makes the big public take to one of his pieces suddenly after ignoring his productions for years.

The music publisher who publishes most of my numbers is my barometer. He can tell pretty well—certainly better than I can—what piece is going to make a hit and what piece is going to "flo." He has his finger on the pulse of the public. One month he will tell me to put a Dixie foxtrot back in the pigeonhole. It may be useful next year, he says. But at the moment people are demanding modern sentimental stuff—music far, far away from the plantation and the old Texas moon and darkies crooning under it. "Give me a real good love-and-girls-and-curls type o' foxtrot," declares my publisher, and I'll back it to make a hit.

If a publisher thinks well of a piece, he will pay heavily in advertising it—he will "back it." If he be not certain of its appeal, he will let it slide without undue fuss into the world, and may be it will sell just enough copies to bring publisher and composer a small profit.

When a piece of mine goes out to make a hit the publisher has to get back over a thousand pounds before he sees a penny profit. If he likes it well at first hearing, he will call in his office staff, the porter, the charwoman, anyone who is around, and get their opinions. If he then takes it up will send it out first to a musical show,

or will get a vaudeville turn to try it out. If the latter make a hit with it, the publisher will exploit it all he can.

A big hit is worth thousands to the publisher. The duo who gave "Yes we have no Bananas" to the world have made probably £15,000 to £20,000 out of it.

I once offered a foxtrot to every publisher in New York. None could see its possibilities. But I felt it was a "winner," and I backed it with some borrowed money. It was an instant success, and set the vogue for that season. It sold for nine months and I made nearly £13,000 out of it.

HOME OF CHARLES DICKENS

Gad's Hill Place Sold

Gad's Hill Place, on the Dover road, not far from Rochester, has just been sold privately, after more than one appearance in the auction room.

Gad's Hill was the house on which the earlier ambitions of Dickens were centred, and the home which he finally acquired, and in which he died. It stands on the summit of Gad's Hill, with its bell turret and quaint porch, much as it was in his times; but the famous cedar trees in the garden on the opposite side of the road have disappeared.

This part of the old road from London to Dover has associations which pre-date Dickens by many centuries. It was here or hereabouts that Falstaff had his mythical encounter with the "Knaves in Kendal Green."

A "SPEAKING FILM"

Interesting Trial in Berlin

A private demonstration of a new "speaking film," which has been invented by three Swiss physicists, was given in Berlin on September 24. Though the invention is still in its elementary stages, it opens up a clear line of advance in the production of a successful speaking picture plant.

In order to secure the synchronization of sound and movement, a new microphone is introduced, by means of which the sound waves are converted into electric waves, which, in their turn, produce fluctuations of light in an electric lamp. These are reproduced by photography as small horizontal lines in varying degrees of density and thickness

by the side of the main film. When the film is shown on the cinematograph the reverse of this process takes place, the sound being finally transmitted to the screen by an ordinary telephone wire and reproduced through a loud-speaking receiver.

The success which the invention has obtained is largely due to the parison was made between the last-named apparatus. A comic on an expensive gramophone and its transmission through the loud-speaking receiver. The telephone was proved to be superior, the note, and even all the twangs of the stringed instruments which were being played in another part of the building, being reproduced distinctly.

THE VANISHED "YELLOW-BOY"

Sir Ian Hamilton's Memories

Speaking to 5,000 school children at Nottingham, recently General Sir Ian Hamilton, in the course of an amusing address, referred to their thoughts as being bright and sharply edged, like newly minted sovereigns. "But I was forgetting," he remarked, "you boys have never handled a real sovereign; that splendid fat, flashing little fellow who used to come rolling home with father on Saturday night—the night when mother used to say, 'Where's the other one?' You've never set eyes even on a real ten-bob-bit—what the children of the fifties used to call a 'Yellow-boy.' Once, when I was about 7 years old, my father pulled one out of his waistcoat pocket and said, 'Ian, what's that?' I said, 'Father, that's a round' Then he turned to my 4-year-old brother and said, 'Vereken, what's that?' And Vereken said, 'Father, that's a Yellow-boy.' My father patted him on the head, saying, 'I fear God has given me an idiot for my first born!' " "When schoolboys in my day got tips," he went on, "they were given beautiful coins of gold and silver. Now, at best, you get a dirty paper note; at the worst a half-crown made of brass nickel."

Recalling memories of his schooldays, Sir Ian told the children of the time when Dr. Benson, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, used to cane him for crimes committed with a catapult, as well as for incorrigible unpunctuality, the second Monday morning of the term, and every Monday morning after it. "He used to cane me," said the general, "until his eyes, always rather bulgy, nearly dropped out on to the carpet; until, what with

old lickings and new lickings, my back went blue, purple, green, and yellow, with black weals over the ribs where the end of the cane flipped round. When I stripped at the bathing lake and the boys saw I was stripped they used to call out 'Zebra.' This made me furious, and I used to call out in reply, 'No, I'm a hippopotamus,' so they called me 'Hippo Hamilton' for the rest of my school days!"

FAMILY LIFE IN SOVIET RUSSIA

Decrease in Divorces

"There is no such thing in Russian law as an illegitimate child," states "Russian Information and Review," published by the Information Department of the Russian Trade Delegation. "Soviet family law is distinguished by two all-important features. The first and foremost is the care taken to safeguard the interests of the child. The right of the child to existence, to proper care and food, and, under proper circumstances, to direct support by its parents, is recognized, whether the child has been born in wedlock or not. . . . Whether formally married or not, the parents are given rights over their children only in so far as such rights are to the interest of the latter. If a parent in any way abuses such rights he is liable to be deprived of them altogether in a court of law.

"The second important feature of Soviet family law is the fact that the registration of a marriage, whether civil or ecclesiastical, confers no special rights on husband or wife. Marriage may be dissolved at any time without difficulty.

It is stated that the number of divorces that now occur in Russia does not exceed 5 to 10 per cent. of the registered marriages. "It is true that there was a period in 1918 when the number of divorces was actually greater than the number of marriages. But this only proved the number of unhappy marriages that had existed previously, which under the old laws had to be endured. To-day, on the other hand, with the establishment of normal conditions, divorce—though easy enough to obtain—is no longer of abnormally frequent occurrence.

FISHERIES EXPERIMENT

New Method Adopted in Madras

The Madras Fisheries Department is about to try an interesting experiment in west coast fishing, with Dutch seine nets, for which purpose a special fishing vessel with Dutch tackle has been purchased, writes a correspondent of the "Statesman." She is a sea-going launch, and was ordered at Home on the recommendation of Mr. J. Hornell, late Director of Fisheries, with a

view to testing the suitability of this method of fishing in Indian coastal waters. The launch recently arrived at Tuticorin, and is now on her way to Cochin. Her skipper is an officer of the R. N. R., but the crew is composed of Indians, a subordinate officer with the rank of Sub-Assistant of Fisheries being added to her establishment, principally as interpreter.

The launch which was built for the Government by Messrs. Thornycroft, is a little over 49 feet long, with 9 feet beam and 3 feet draft. She is fitted with a capacious fish-hold, a net-hauling winch and a rope-coiler worked off the engine, which is a Thornycroft 30 B. H. P. marine motor.

In addition to being employed in fishing the vessel will be utilized for other work, such as boat-towage at the pearl or *chank* fisheries and pearl bank inspection. The new fishing experiment will be watched with much interest. Should it be attended with success it is anticipated there will still be the question of rapid and remunerative disposal of the catches landed.

SOVIET TYRANNY

Woman Anarchist's View: "Worst Regime on Earth"

A denunciation of Bolshevik methods, which gains force from being the opinion of a Russian Anarchist, was made in Berlin recently by Miss Mollic Steimer, who has the distinction of having been deported both from the United States and Soviet Russia, whence she has just arrived. She said she had been expelled for opposing the political system in Russia, which she describes as the worst, the meanest, and the most hypocritical on earth. She intends to devote herself to alleviating the fate of the political prisoners, which, she says, defies description. The treatment of these people in Russia, particularly the Anarchists, Socialists, and other revolutionaries, puts the Tsarist Tsarist régime in the shade. They are imprisoned, exiled, and shot without trial for holding opinions obnoxious to the ruling party. Often the worst punishments are inflicted merely on suspicion.

During her stay in Russia Miss Steimer was twice arrested, spent three months in goal, and went twice on hunger-strike. After a month in prison she was ordered to be exiled to Siberia, whereupon she went on hunger-strike and was released by the intervention of some French Communists. In July she was re-arrested with 39 other Anarchists, though all they had been guilty of was relief work and correspondence with well-known Anarchists regarding it. The Russia prisons, she continued, were so full of political prisoners that many refused to take any more. The conditions in the Solovietzky

BRITISH AS THE CHOSEN PEOPLE

A Reading of Signs of the Times

Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, was present recently at the opening meeting of the British Israel Congress at the Central Hall, Westminster. Lord Gisborough, who presided, said that British Israel was the answer to the late Mr. Bradlaugh's challenge that there was no race in the world to-day to which the promises given to Abraham applied, therefore the prophecy was false, and the Bible a lie. They claimed that the British race was the people to which the Bible promises applied and which was to be the great instrument through which God would carry out His scheme for the universe.

The word British was derived from two Hebrew words, "Brit" or "Brith," meaning a Covenant, and "ish," a people. The name British covered America, and together they were the Covenant people. They maintained that in the history of the British people every word of God's pledge to Abraham had been carried out step by step through the centuries.

An apology was received from Mr. W. F. Massey, Prime Minister of New Zealand, one of the patrons of the Federation, who was detained by the Imperial Conference.

The Rev. W. E. Woodhams Denham said the British Empire and the Confederation of the Anglo-Saxon corresponded indubitably with all the magnificent prophecies in the Scriptures. All the signs of the times pointed to something great coming. Armageddon, which would decide finally between the right and the wrong, was coming, and after that British Israelites looked for the coming of the Great King to restore all things and transfuse all things with His divine spirit.

The Rev. W. Pascoe Goard pointed out that the missionary effort of the world to-day depended in the main upon Britain, her overseas dominions, and the United States. There were 30,000 missionaries at work, and all but 1,900 of them were of our race and language. This pointed to the fact that God was convincing the world that this was the nation which he had chosen and ordained to his service.

Monastery, on a lonely island in the Arctic, where 300 "politicals" live, were particularly appalling. Filth, want, and misery were indescribable, and the guards of these victims of Bolshevik tyranny were former thieves, murderers, and highwaymen who were given their liberty on condition that they kept a sharp eye on the enemies of the Soviet. There is no room for free and decent people under Bolshevik régime, was the conclusion Miss Steimer arrived at.



NOTIFICATION

H.B.M. Consul-General would be glad to receive applications from qualified British medical practitioners willing, in return for a free passage and an honorarium, to take charge of mental patients on a voyage from Shanghai to the United Kingdom in January, 1924. Applications should be addressed in writing to H.B.M. Shipping Vice Consul.

(Signed) S. BARTON,
H.B.M. Consul-General.

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

Per R.M.S. Empress of Asia Dec. 15
Per O.S.K.S. Alps Maru ... 16
Per P.M.S. President Wilson ... 17
Per P. & O. S. Macedonia ... 18
Per A.L.S. President Grant ... 21

OUTWARD

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON, ETC.—
Per B.F.S. Autolyous ... Dec. 18
Per M.M.S. Chambord ... 20
Per N.L.S. Holstein ... 25
Per P. & O. S. Kaiser-I-Hind ... 25

FOR JAPAN, CANADA, U.S.A. & EUROPE:
Per A.L.S. President Jackson Dec. 15
Per P.M.S. President Taft ... 15
Per N.Y.K.S. Yokohama Maru ... 16
Per T.K.K.S. Taiyo Maru ... 18
Per O.S.K.S. Arabia Maru ... 18
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Australia ... 24

FOR MANILA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW
ZEALAND VIA HONGKONG:—

Per R.M.S. Empress of Asia Dec. 16
Per B.F.S. Autolyous ... 18
Per M.M.S. Chambord ... 20

PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per str. Kutwo, December 8. From River Ports. Messrs. R. Blau, Ramplin and C. H. Smith.

Per str. Loongwo, December 9. From River Ports. Mr. West, Mr. and Mrs. Livingston, Dr. and Mrs. Stewart, Miss Schmiedeman, Mrs. S. Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. Saker and child.

Per str. Kiangteen, December 10. From River Ports. Mr. Everest.

Per str. Foushing, December 10. From Hongkong and Swatow. Mr. and Mrs. Williams.

Per str. Sunning, December 10. From Canton and Hongkong. Mrs. K. Flynn and two children, Mrs. Tarby, Misses McNab, D. and H. Hall.

Per str. Fengtien, December 10. From Tientsin. Mrs. Loder and child, Capt. O'Kane, Messrs. W. Moore, C. H. Mortimer and A. E. Tipper. From Chefoo. Misses Parker, Rough, Macpherson. From Weihaiwei. Mr. and Mrs. Hill.

Per str. Kiangshun, December 11. From River Ports. Mr. T. D. Emsha. One Sister of Charity.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, December 11. From Ningpo. Messrs. A. E. Luce, Steptoe, Mrs. H. E. Fitzsimmons, Miss Francesca.

Per M.M.S. Paul Lecat, December 11. From Marseilles. Mr. Veroudart, Mr. and Miss Grierson, Mr. and Mrs. Lade, Mr. and Mrs. Raskin, Mr. Fremet, Mrs. Maillard, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. Beraha and child, Miss Roberts, Mrs. Molines. Mr. and Mrs. Andre, Messrs. Sigaut, Barraud, Brunner, Mr. and Mrs. Fay and child, Mrs. Bottu, Messrs. Thesmar, Velliot, Mr. and Mrs. Herselin, Mr. Tanguy, Miss Goldberg, Mr. Balandras, Mrs. Blanchet and two children, Messrs. Benoit, Joseph, Barbara, Joanna, Marrant, O. C. Lam, Mr. and Mrs. Puyhard, Mr. and Mrs. Monge, Misses Gravaud, Youchara, Mr. Levenspill, Mrs. Ruge and child, Miss Teste, Messrs. Mariani, Querci, Gallet, Courtès. From Port Said. Mr. and Mrs. Meyrier, Mr. and Mrs. Cannelakis and three children, Mr. Hundhansen. From Singapore. Mrs. Laurent. From Haiphong. Mrs. Chodzki, Miss Guerrier, Messrs. Hohnke and Vieil. From Hongkong. Mr. and Mrs. R. Deming, Jr., Messrs. O. M. Green, H. A. Hovenier, S. Komor, W. Stead, S. Barwick, Rev. C. B. Shann.

Per str. Luenho, December 12. From River Ports. Messrs. Morris, Hallet, Pan, Miss H. Halvers.

Per str. Soochow, December 12. From Hongkong. Messrs. D. Ramsay, S. H. Clarke and A. V. Pinson.

Per str. Poyang, December 12. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. N. Macgregor, Mr. J. Macgregor, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Galloway, Mr. L. Godryn, Miss Bany.

Per str. Shuntien, December 13. From Tientsin. Mr. Donnelly.

Per str. Sinkiang, December 13. From Hongkong. Messrs. Stitzel and Kroff.

Per M. V. Glentara, December 13. From Hongkong. Mrs. L. M. Humphrey, Master E. G. Humphrey.

Per str. Kungwo, December 13. From River Ports. Miss Golding, Messrs. T. O. White, H. Hergel, Monk, Mrs. Fisher and child, Mrs. R. M. Austin, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. da Garcia.

Per str. Hsin Peking, December 14. From Ningpo. Messrs. Proske, Stock Adamson and child.

Per str. Ningshao, December 14. From River Ports. Mrs. Kreamer and Mrs. E. M. Sunaroff.

Per str. Luenyi, December 14. From River Ports. Messrs. Hart and Southby, Mr. and Mrs. Milton, Mr. C. T. Vandervot.

OUTWARD.

Per str. Suiyang, December 8.—For Amoy.—Mr. R. F. Maddren.

Per str. Shantung, December 8.—For Hongkong.—Messrs. F. Earon and T. Fujimori.

Per str. Woosung, December 8.—For River Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Wemyss, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Hobart, Messrs. H. Fiene, R. Shaw, M. Keller.

Per P. & O. S. Soudan, December 9.—For Hongkong.—Messrs. F. A. Herbold, R. Leigh, P. Markham, A. Perlas, K. A. Stevens, Miss O. Perkin. For Bombay.—Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Parkes.

Per str. Kaiping, December 10.—For Chinwangtao.—Mr. A. Haas and Miss C. Haas.

Per str. Tatung, December 10.—For River Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Levy.

Per str. Hsin Peking, December 10.—For Ningpo.—Mr. H. J. S. Jones.

Per str. Ngankin, December 11.—For Kinkiang.—Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Currie.

Per str. Fengtien, December 12.—For Tientsin.—Mr. J. H. Green.

Per str. Hsin Peking, December 12.—For Ningpo.—Messrs. Lee, A. Q. Adamson and child.

Per str. Sunning, December 12.—For Hongkong.—Mrs. C. R. Bull, Mr. Savage. For Swatow.—Mr. N. R. Ramsay, Mr. Breche. For Canton.—Mrs. Tarby.

Per str. Soochow, December 13.—For Amoy.—Misses M. Elliott, A. G. Hanner, Messrs. R. Elliott, D. Day, P. Wright and L. V. Jensen. For Hongkong.—Captain McAdam.

Per str. Hsin Peking, December 14.—For Ningpo.—Miss J. Andre.

Per str. Shuntien, December 15.—For Tientsin.—Messrs. Tipper, D. E. Douty, Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Huber. For Weihaiwei.—Miss Brenner.

Per str. Sinkiang, December 15.—For Hongkong.—Mrs. T. Beer, Miss J. De Pree, Mr. C. E. Watkins, Master H. Day.

BIRTHS

POPE.—On December 11, 1923, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Pope, a son (Dennis John Keble).

SILVA.—On December 14, 1923, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Basto da Silva, a daughter. Hongkong and Macao papers please copy.

SHARNHORST.—On December 7, 1923, at No. 201 Dixwell Road, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Sharnhorst, a daughter.

THOMAS.—On December 10, 1923, in New York City, to Mr. and Mrs. James A. Thomas, a son, James A. Thomas, Jr. (By cable.)

MARRIAGES

BUTLAND-ELLIS.—On December 10, 1923, at the United States Consulate, Kobe, before the Consul-General, by the Rev. H. R. Jones, M.A., Capt. G. Butland, Shanghai, to Ruth Louise, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis of West Hollywood, California.

CLIFF-BROOMHALL.—On December 14, 1923, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Very Rev. Dean Synons, Howard Stephens, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Cliff, of Torquay, to Mary Gertrude, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Broomhall, of the China Inland Mission, Shanghai.

DELIGHT-TUCKETT.—On December 12, 1923, at St. Paul's Church, Ningpo, by the Right Rev. Bishop Molony, D.D., the Rev. Sidney John Delight, B.A., D.C.M., of the Church Missionary Society's College in Ningpo, to Elizabeth Ethel Tuckett, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tuckett, of Canonbury, London.

DEATHS

MADAR.—On Friday, December 14, 1923, at Hongkong. Omar Abdool Madar, aged 52. (By cable).

SOKOV.—At the General Hospital, Shanghai, Sergei Vasilievitch Sokov, former Con-

sul-General for Russia at Newchwang.

WRIGHTSON.—On December 11, 1923, at Hongkong (whilst returning to Shanghai from England), Kate Eve, widow of the late Clarence W. Wrightson. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

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SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer		Wind		Hygrometer 9 a.m.		Thermometer in Shade		Weather conditions
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Direction 9 a.m.	Force (1-12)	Dry	Wet	Max.	Min.	
Dec. 7	30.13	55.2	N W	2	51.2	48.8	55.2	31.1	O.
" 8	30.47	54.0	N W	2	46.8	44.4	53.4	44.2	O.
" 9	30.44	53.4	N	1	47.7	45.5	50.9	45.0	O.
" 10	30.40	53.6	N W	2	46.6	43.4	53.8	43.3	O.
" 11	30.46	53.6	W N W	1	42.3	41.0	59.0	31.7	B.
" 12	30.34	53.2	E	2	43.8	49.8	64.4	34.5	O.
" 13	30.51	52.5	N N W	3	41.6	47.4	49.3	38.9	B. C.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date		Thermometer (Fahr.)				Rainfall	
		Minimum		Maximum		Inches	
		1923	1922	1923	1922	1923	1922
Dec.	7	39.0	31.0	59.8	49.0	Nil.	Nil.
"	8	36.0	34.4	52.6	54.0	Nil.	Nil.
"	9	38.2	35.0	50.8	58.0	0.05	Nil.
"	10	34.2	37.5	52.6	56.8	0.04	Nil.
"	11	37.5	35.0	56.0	50.4	Nil.	Nil.
"	12	46.2	40.0	60.8	51.0	Nil.	Nil.
"	13	41.0	42.5	50.0	55.0	0.04	Nil.

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